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(57) Abstract <p>The present invention is based on the identification of a novel G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) that is expressed predominantly in the brain and nucleic acid molecules that encoded the GPCR, referred to herein as the <i>flh2882</i> protein and <i>flh2882</i> gene respectively. Based on this identification, the present invention provides: (1) isolated <i>flh2882</i> protein; (2) isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode an <i>flh2882</i> protein; (3) antibodies that selectively bind to the <i>flh2882</i> protein; (4) methods of isolating allelic variants of the <i>flh2882</i> protein and gene; (5) methods of identifying cells and tissues that express the <i>flh2882</i> protein/gene; (6) methods of identifying agents and cellular compounds that bind to the <i>flh2882</i> protein; (7) methods of identifying agents that modulate the expression of the <i>flh2882</i> gene; and (8) methods of modulating the activity of the <i>flh2882</i> protein in a cell or organism.</p>			

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LIGAND RECEPTORS AND USES THEREFOR

Background of the Invention

5 G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) are one of the major class of proteins that are responsible for transducing a signal within a cell. GPCRs are proteins that have seven transmembrane domains. Upon binding of a ligand to the extracellular domain of a GPCR, a signal is transduced within the cell which results in a change in a biological or physiological property of the cell.

10 GPCRs, along with G-proteins and effectors (intracellular enzymes and channels which are modulated by G-proteins), are the components of a modular signaling system that connects the state of intracellular second messengers to extracellular inputs. These genes and gene-products are potential causative agents of disease (Spiegel et al. (1993) *J. Clin. Invest.* 92:1119-1125; McKusick and Amberger (1993) *J. Med. Genet.* 30:1-26). Specific defects in the rhodopsin gene and the V2 vasopressin receptor gene have been
15 shown to cause various forms of autosomal dominant and autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa (see Nathans et al. (1992) *Annu. Rev. Genet.* 26:403-424), nephrogenic diabetes insipidus (Holtzman et al. (1993) *Hum. Mol. Genet.* 2:1201-1204 and references therein). These receptors are of critical importance to both the central nervous system and peripheral physiological processes. Evolutionary analyses suggest that the ancestor
20 of these proteins originally developed in concert with complex body plans and nervous systems.

The GPCR protein superfamily now contains over 250 types of paralogues, receptors that represent variants generated by gene duplications (or other processes), as opposed to orthologues, the same receptor from different species. The superfamily can
25 be broken down into five families: Family I, receptors typified by rhodopsin and the beta2-adrenergic receptor and currently represented by over 200 unique members (reviewed by Dohlman et al. (1991) *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 60:653-688 and references therein); Family II, the recently characterized parathyroid hormone/calcitonin/secretin receptor family (Juppner et al. (1991) *Science* 254:1024-1026; Lin et al. (1991) *Science*
30 254:1022-1024); Family III, the metabotropic glutamate receptor family in mammals (Nakanishi (1992) *Science* 258:597-603); Family IV, the cAMP receptor family, important in the chemotaxis and development of *D. discoideum* (Klein et al. (1988) *Science* 241:1467-1472); and Family V, the fungal mating pheromone receptors such as STE2 (reviewed by Kurjan (1992) *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 61:1097-1129).

35 In addition to these groups of GPCRs, there are a small number of other proteins which present seven putative hydrophobic segments and appear to be unrelated to GPCRs; however, they have not been shown to couple to G-proteins. *Drosophila*

express a photoreceptor-specific protein bride of sevenless (boss), a seven-transmembrane-segment protein which has been extensively studied and does not show evidence of being a GPCR (Hart et al. (1993) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90:5047-5051 (1993)). The gene frizzled (fz) in *Drosophila* is also thought to be a protein with seven
5 transmembrane segments. Like boss, fz has not been shown to couple to G-proteins (Vinson et al. (1989) *Nature* 338:263-264).

G proteins represent a family of heterotrimeric proteins composed of α , β and γ subunits, which bind guanine nucleotides. These proteins are usually linked to cell surface receptors, e.g., receptors containing seven transmembrane domains, such as the
10 ligand receptors. Following ligand binding to the receptor, a conformational change is transmitted to the G protein, which causes the α -subunit to exchange a bound GDP molecule for a GTP molecule and to dissociate from the $\beta\gamma$ -subunits. The GTP-bound form of the α -subunit typically functions as an effector-modulating moiety, leading to the production of second messengers, such as cyclic AMP (e.g., by activation of
15 adenylate cyclase), diacylglycerol or inositol phosphates. Greater than 20 different types of α -subunits are known in man, which associate with a smaller pool of β and γ subunits. Examples of mammalian G proteins include Gi, Go, Gq, Gs and Gt. G proteins are described extensively in Lodish H. et al. *Molecular Cell Biology*, (Scientific American Books Inc., New York, N.Y., 1995), the contents of which are incorporated
20 herein by reference.

GPCRs are a major target for drug action and development. Accordingly, it is valuable to the field of pharmaceutical development to identify and characterize previously unknown GPCRs. The present invention advances the state of the art by providing a previously unidentified GPCR which is expressed predominantly in the
25 brain.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention is based on the identification of a novel G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) that is expressed predominantly in the brain and nucleic acid molecules
30 that encoded the GPCR, referred to herein as the flh2882 protein and *flh2882* gene respectively. Based on this identification, the present invention provides: 1) isolated flh2882 protein; 2) isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode an flh2882 protein; 3) antibodies that selectively bind to the flh2882 protein; 4) methods of isolating allelic variants of the flh2882 protein and gene; 5) methods of identifying cells and tissues that
35 express the flh2882 protein/gene; 6) methods of identifying agents and cellular compounds that bind to the flh2882 protein; 7) methods of identifying agents that

modulate the expression of the *flh2882* gene; and 8) methods of modulating the activity of the flh2882 protein in a cell or organism.

Brief Description of the Drawings

5 *Figure 1* depicts the human *flh2882* gene sequence (SEQ ID NO:1).

Figure 2 depicts the coding region of the human *flh2882* gene without the 5' and 3' untranslated regions (SEQ ID NO:3).

Figure 3 depicts the amino acid sequence of the human flh2882 protein (SEQ ID NO:2).

Detailed Description of the Invention

10 The present invention is based on the discovery of a novel G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) molecule that is expressed predominantly in the brain, the flh2882 protein, and nucleic acid molecules that encode the flh2882 protein, the *flh2882* gene or
15 *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule. Specifically, an EST was first identified in a public database that had low homology to G-protein coupled receptors. PCR primers were then designed based on this sequence and a cDNA was identified by screening a human fetal cDNA library (See Example 1). Positive clones were sequenced and contigs were assembled. Analysis of the assembled sequence revealed that the cloned cDNA
20 molecule encoded a GPCR, denoted herein as the flh2882 protein. The flh2882 protein is a GPCR and plays a role in and function in signaling pathways within cells that express the flh2882 protein, particularly brain cells.

Various aspects of the invention are described in further detail in the following subsections:

I. Isolated flh2882 Protein

25 The present invention provides isolated flh2882 protein as well as peptide fragments of an flh2882 protein.

30 As used herein, a protein is said to be "isolated" or "purified" when it is substantially free of cellular when it is isolated from recombinant and non-recombinant cells, or free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when it is chemically synthesized. The language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of flh2882 protein in which the protein is separated from cellular components of the cells in which it is naturally or recombinantly produced. In one embodiment, the
35 language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of an flh2882 protein having less than about 30% (by dry weight) of non-flh2882 protein (also referred to herein as a "contaminating protein"), more preferably less than about 20% of non-

flh2882 protein, still more preferably less than about 10% of non-flh2882 protein, and most preferably less than about 5% non-flh2882 protein. When the flh2882 protein or biologically active fragment thereof is recombinantly produced, it is also preferably substantially free of culture medium, i.e., culture medium represents less than about 5 20%, more preferably less than about 10%, and most preferably less than about 5% of the volume of the protein preparation. The language "substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals" includes preparations of flh2882 protein in which the protein is separated from chemical precursors or other chemicals that are involved in the synthesis of the protein. In one embodiment, the language "substantially free of 10 chemical precursors or other chemicals" includes preparations of flh2882 protein having less than about 30% (by dry weight) of chemical precursors or non-flh2882 chemicals, more preferably less than about 20% chemical precursors or non-flh2882 chemicals, still more preferably less than about 10% chemical precursors or non-flh2882 chemicals, and most preferably less than about 5% chemical precursors or non-flh2882 chemicals. In 15 preferred embodiments, isolated proteins or biologically active fragments thereof lack contaminating proteins from the same animal from which the flh2882 protein is derived. Typically, such proteins are produced by recombinant expression of, for example, a human flh2882 protein in a non-human cell.

As used herein, an flh2882 protein is defined as a protein that comprises: 1) the 20 amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence which is encoded by the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited with ATCC as Accession Number 98914, hereinafter human flh2882 protein; 2) functional and non-functional naturally occurring allelic variants of human flh2882 protein; 3) recombinantly produced variants of human flh2882 protein; and 4) flh2882 proteins 25 isolated from organisms other than humans (orthologues of human flh2882 protein.)

As used herein, an allelic variant of human flh2882 protein is defined as: 1) a protein isolated from human cells or tissues; 2) a protein encoded by the same genetic locus as that encoding the human flh2882 protein; and 3) a protein that contains substantially homology to human flh2882.

30 As used herein, two proteins are substantially homologous when the amino acid sequence of the two protein (or a region of the proteins) are at least about 60-65%, typically at least about 70-75%, more typically at least about 80-85%, and most typically at least about 90-95% or more homologous to each other. To determine the percent homology of two amino acid sequences (e.g., SEQ ID NO:2 and an allelic variant 35 thereof) or of two nucleic acids, the sequences are aligned for optimal comparison purposes (e.g., gaps can be introduced in the sequence of one protein or nucleic acid for optimal alignment with the other protein or nucleic acid). The amino acid residues or

nucleotides at corresponding amino acid positions or nucleotide positions are then compared. When a position in one sequence (e.g., SEQ ID NO:2) is occupied by the same amino acid residue or nucleotide as the corresponding position in the other sequence (e.g., an allelic variant of the human flh2882 protein), then the molecules are
5 homologous at that position (i.e., as used herein amino acid or nucleic acid "homology" is equivalent to amino acid or nucleic acid "identity"). The percent homology between the two sequences is a function of the number of identical positions shared by the sequences (i.e., % homology = # of identical positions/total # of positions x 100).

Allelic variants of human flh2882 include both functional and non-functional
10 flh2882 proteins. Functional allelic variants are naturally occurring amino acid sequence variants of the human flh2882 protein that maintain the ability to bind an flh2882 ligand and transduce a signal within a cell. Functional allelic variants will typically contain only conservative substitution of one or more amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2 or substitution, deletion or insertion of non-critical residues in non-critical regions
15 of the protein.

Non-functional allelic variants are naturally occurring amino acid sequence variants of human flh2882 protein that do not have the ability to either bind ligand and/or transduce a signal within a cell. Non-functional allelic variants will typically contain a non-conservative substitution, a deletion, or insertion or premature truncation
20 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. NO:2 or a substitution, insertion or deletion in critical residues or critical regions.

The present invention further provides non-human orthologues of human flh2882 protein. Orthologues of human flh2882 protein are proteins that are isolated from non-human organisms and possess the same ligand binding and signaling capabilities of the
25 human flh2882 protein. Orthologues of the human flh2882 protein can readily be identified as comprising an amino acid sequence that is substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

The flh2882 protein is a GPCR that participates in signaling pathways within cells. As used herein, a signaling pathway refers to the modulation (e.g., stimulated or
30 inhibited) of a cellular function/activity upon the binding of a ligand to the GPCR (flh2882 protein). Examples of such functions include mobilization of intracellular molecules that participate in a signal transduction pathway, e.g., phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PIP₂), inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate (IP₃) or adenylate cyclase; polarization of the plasma membrane; production or secretion of molecules; alteration
35 in the structure of a cellular component; cell proliferation, e.g., synthesis of DNA; cell migration; cell differentiation; and cell survival. Since the flh2882 protein is expressed substantially in the brain, examples of cells participating in an flh2882 signaling

pathway include neural cells, e.g., peripheral nervous system and central nervous system cells such as brain cells, e.g., limbic system cells, hypothalamus cells, hippocampus cells, substantia nigra cells, cortex cells, brain stem cells, neocortex cells, basal ganglion cells, caudate putamen cells, olfactory tubercle cells, and superior colliculi cells.

5 Depending on the type of cell, the response mediated by the flh2882 protein/ligand binding may be different. For example, in some cells, binding of a ligand to an flh2882 protein may stimulate an activity such as adhesion, migration, differentiation, etc. through phosphatidylinositol or cyclic AMP metabolism and turnover while in other cells, the binding of the ligand to the flh2882 protein will
10 produce a different result. Regardless of the cellular activity modulated by flh2882, it is universal that the flh2882 protein is a GPCR and interacts with a "G protein" to produce one or more secondary signals in a variety of intracellular signal transduction pathways, e.g., through phosphatidylinositol or cyclic AMP metabolism and turnover, in a cell. G proteins represent a family of heterotrimeric proteins composed of α , β and γ subunits,
15 which bind guanine nucleotides. These proteins are usually linked to cell surface receptors, e.g., receptors containing seven transmembrane domains, such as the ligand receptors. Following ligand binding to the receptor, a conformational change is transmitted to the G protein, which causes the α -subunit to exchange a bound GDP molecule for a GTP molecule and to dissociate from the $\beta\gamma$ -subunits. The GTP-bound
20 form of the α -subunit typically functions as an effector-modulating moiety, leading to the production of second messengers, such as cyclic AMP (e.g., by activation of adenylate cyclase), diacylglycerol or inositol phosphates. Greater than 20 different types of α -subunits are known in man, which associate with a smaller pool of β and γ subunits. Examples of mammalian G proteins include Gi, Go, Gq, Gs and Gt. G
25 proteins are described extensively in Lodish H. et al. Molecular Cell Biology, (Scientific American Books Inc., New York, N.Y., 1995), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

As used herein, "phosphatidylinositol turnover and metabolism" refers to the molecules involved in the turnover and metabolism of phosphatidylinositol 4,5-
30 biphosphate (PIP₂) as well as to the activities of these molecules. PIP₂ is a phospholipid found in the cytosolic leaflet of the plasma membrane. Binding of a ligand to the flh2882 activates, in some cells, the plasma-membrane enzyme phospholipase C that in turn can hydrolyze PIP₂ to produce 1,2-diacylglycerol (DAG) and inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate (IP₃). Once formed IP₃ can diffuse to the endoplasmic reticulum surface
35 where it can bind an IP₃ receptor, e.g., a calcium channel protein containing an IP₃ binding site. IP₃ binding can induce opening of the channel, allowing calcium ions to be released into the cytoplasm. IP₃ can also be phosphorylated by a specific kinase to form

inositol 1,3,4,5-tetraphosphate (IP₄), a molecule which can cause calcium entry into the cytoplasm from the extracellular medium. IP₃ and IP₄ can subsequently be hydrolyzed very rapidly to the inactive products inositol 1,4-bisphosphate (IP₂) and inositol 1,3,4-trisphosphate, respectively. These inactive products can be recycled by the cell to
5 synthesize PIP₂. The other second messenger produced by the hydrolysis of PIP₂, namely 1,2-diacylglycerol (DAG), remains in the cell membrane where it can serve to activate the enzyme protein kinase C. Protein kinase C is usually found soluble in the cytoplasm of the cell, but upon an increase in the intracellular calcium concentration, this enzyme can move to the plasma membrane where it can be activated by DAG. The
10 activation of protein kinase C in different cells results in various cellular responses such as the phosphorylation of glycogen synthase, or the phosphorylation of various transcription factors, e.g., NF- κ B. The language "phosphatidylinositol activity", as used herein, refers to an activity of PIP₂ or one of its metabolites.

Another signaling pathway in which the flh2882 protein may participate is the
15 cAMP turnover pathway. As used herein, "cyclic AMP turnover and metabolism" refers to the molecules involved in the turnover and metabolism of cyclic AMP (cAMP) as well as to the activities of these molecules. Cyclic AMP is a second messenger produced in response to ligand induced stimulation of certain G protein coupled receptors. In the ligand signaling pathway, binding of ligand to a ligand receptor can
20 lead to the activation of the enzyme adenylate cyclase, which catalyzes the synthesis of cAMP. The newly synthesized cAMP can in turn activate a cAMP-dependent protein kinase. This activated kinase can phosphorylate a voltage-gated potassium channel protein, or an associated protein, and lead to the inability of the potassium channel to open during an action potential. The inability of the potassium channel to open results
25 in a decrease in the outward flow of potassium, which normally repolarizes the membrane of a neuron, leading to prolonged membrane depolarization.

The present invention further provides fragments of flh2882 proteins. As used herein, a fragment comprises at least 8 contiguous amino acids from an flh2882 protein. Preferred fragments are fragments that possess one or more of the biological activities of
30 the flh2882 protein, for example the ability to bind to a G-protein, as well as fragments that can be used as an immunogen to generate anti-flh2882 antibodies.

Biologically active fragments of the flh2882 protein include peptides comprising amino acid sequences derived from the amino acid sequence of an flh2882 protein, e.g., the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 or the amino acid sequence of a protein
35 homologous to the flh2882 protein, which include less amino acids than the full length flh2882 protein or the full length protein which is homologous to the flh2882 protein, and exhibit at least one activity of the flh2882 protein. Typically, biologically active

fragments (peptides, e.g., peptides which are, for example, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 50, 100 or more amino acids in length) comprise a domain or motif, e.g., a transmembrane domain or G-protein binding domain.

The isolated flh2882 proteins can be purified from cells that naturally express the protein, purified from cells that have been altered to express the flh2882 protein, or synthesized using known protein synthesis methods. Preferably, as described below, the isolated flh2882 protein is produced by recombinant DNA techniques. For example, a nucleic acid molecule encoding the protein is cloned into an expression vector (as described above), the expression vector is introduced into a host cell (as described above) and the flh2882 protein is expressed in the host cell. The flh2882 protein can then be isolated from the cells by an appropriate purification scheme using standard protein purification techniques. Alternative to recombinant expression, the flh2882 protein or fragment can be synthesized chemically using standard peptide synthesis techniques. Lastly, native flh2882 protein can be isolated from cells that naturally express the flh2882 protein (e.g., hippocampal cells, or substantia nigra cells).

The present invention further provides flh2882 chimeric or fusion proteins. As used herein, an flh2882 "chimeric protein" or "fusion protein" comprises an flh2882 protein operatively linked to a non-flh2882 protein. An "flh2882 protein" refers to a protein having an amino acid sequence corresponding to an flh2882 protein, whereas a "non-flh2882 protein" refers to a heterologous protein having an amino acid sequence corresponding to a protein which is not substantially homologous to the flh2882 protein, e.g., a protein which is different from the flh2882 protein. Within the context of fusion proteins, the term "operatively linked" is intended to indicate that the flh2882 protein and the non-flh2882 protein are fused in-frame to each other. The non-flh2882 protein can be fused to the N-terminus or C-terminus of the flh2882 protein. For example, in one embodiment the fusion protein is a GST-flh2882 fusion protein in which the flh2882 sequences are fused to the C-terminus of the GST sequences. Other types of fusion proteins include, but are not limited to, enzymatic fusion proteins, for example beta-galactosidase fusions, yeast two-hybrid GAL fusions, poly-His fusions and Ig fusions. Such fusion proteins, particularly poly-His fusions, can facilitate the purification of recombinant flh2882 protein. In another embodiment, the fusion protein is an flh2882 protein containing a heterologous signal sequence at its N-terminus. In certain host cells (e.g., mammalian host cells), expression and/or secretion of an flh2882 protein can be increased by using a heterologous signal sequence.

Preferably, an flh2882 chimeric or fusion protein is produced by standard recombinant DNA techniques. For example, DNA fragments coding for the different protein sequences are ligated together in-frame in accordance with conventional

techniques, for example by employing blunt-ended or stagger-ended termini for ligation, restriction enzyme digestion to provide for appropriate termini, filling-in of cohesive ends as appropriate, alkaline phosphatase treatment to avoid undesirable joining, and enzymatic ligation. In another embodiment, the fusion gene can be synthesized by conventional techniques including automated DNA synthesizers. Alternatively, PCR amplification of gene fragments can be carried out using anchor primers which give rise to complementary overhangs between two consecutive gene fragments which can subsequently be annealed and re-amplified to generate a chimeric gene sequence (see, for example, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, eds. Ausubel et al. John Wiley & Sons: 1992). Moreover, many expression vectors are commercially available that already encode a fusion moiety (e.g., a GST protein). An flh2882-encoding nucleic acid can be cloned into such an expression vector such that the fusion moiety is linked in-frame to the flh2882 protein.

The present invention also provides altered forms of flh2882 proteins that have been generated using recombinant DNA or mutagenic methods/agents. Altered forms of an flh2882 protein can be generated by mutagenesis, e.g., discrete point mutation or truncation of the flh2882 protein and recombinant DNA method that are well known in the art.

II. Antibodies That Bind To An flh2882 Protein

The present invention further provides antibodies that selectively bind to an flh2882 protein. As used herein, an antibody is said to selectively bind to an flh2882 protein when the antibody binds to flh2882 proteins and does not substantially bind to unrelated proteins. A skilled artisan will readily recognize that an antibody may be considered to substantially bind an flh2882 protein even if it binds to proteins that share homology with a fragment or domain of the flh2882 protein.

The term "antibody" as used herein refers to immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active fragments of immunoglobulin molecules, i.e., molecules that contain an antigen binding site which specifically binds (immunoreacts with) an antigen, such as flh2882. Examples of immunologically active fragments of immunoglobulin molecules include F(ab) and F(ab')₂ fragments which can be generated by treating the antibody with an enzyme such as pepsin. The invention provides polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies that bind flh2882. The term "monoclonal antibody" or "monoclonal antibody composition", as used herein, refers to a population of antibody molecules that contain only one species of an antigen binding site capable of immunoreacting with a particular epitope of flh2882. A monoclonal antibody

composition thus typically displays a single binding affinity for a particular flh2882 protein with which it immunoreacts.

To generate anti-flh2882 antibodies, an isolated flh2882 protein, or a fragment thereof, is used as an immunogen to generate antibodies that bind flh2882 using standard techniques for polyclonal and monoclonal antibody preparation. The full-length flh2882 protein can be used or, alternatively, an antigenic peptide fragment of flh2882 can be used as an immunogen. An antigenic fragment of the flh2882 protein will typically comprises at least 8 contiguous amino acid residues of an flh2882 protein, e.g. 8 contiguous amino acids from SEQ ID NO:2. Preferably, the antigenic peptide comprises at least 10 amino acid residues, more preferably at least 15 amino acid residues, even more preferably at least 20 amino acid residues, and most preferably at least 30 amino acid residues of an flh2882 protein. Preferred fragments for generating anti-flh2882 antibodies are regions of flh2882 that are located on the surface of the protein, e.g., hydrophilic regions.

An flh2882 immunogen typically is used to prepare antibodies by immunizing a suitable subject, (e.g., rabbit, goat, mouse or other mammal) with the immunogen. An appropriate immunogenic preparation can contain, for example, recombinantly expressed flh2882 protein or a chemically synthesized flh2882 peptide. The preparation can further include an adjuvant, such as Freund's complete or incomplete adjuvant, or similar immunostimulatory agent. Immunization of a suitable subject with an immunogenic flh2882 preparation induces a polyclonal anti-flh2882 antibody response.

Polyclonal anti-flh2882 antibodies can be prepared as described above by immunizing a suitable subject with an flh2882 immunogen. The anti-flh2882 antibody titer in the immunized subject can be monitored over time by standard techniques, such as with an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) using immobilized flh2882. If desired, the antibody molecules directed against flh2882 can be isolated from the mammal (e.g., from the blood) and further purified by well known techniques, such as protein A chromatography to obtain the IgG fraction. At an appropriate time after immunization, e.g., when the anti-flh2882 antibody titers are highest, antibody-producing cells can be obtained from the subject and used to prepare monoclonal antibodies by standard techniques, such as the hybridoma technique originally described by Kohler and Milstein (1975) *Nature* 256:495-497) (see also, Brown et al. (1981) *J. Immunol.* 127:539-46; Brown et al. (1980) *J. Biol. Chem.* 255:4980-83; Yeh et al. (1976) *PNAS* 76:2927-31; and Yeh et al. (1982) *Int. J. Cancer* 29:269-75), the more recent human B cell hybridoma technique (Kozbor et al. (1983) *Immunol Today* 4:72), the EBV-hybridoma technique (Cole et al. (1985), *Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy*, Alan R. Liss, Inc., pp. 77-96) or trioma techniques. The technology for

producing monoclonal antibody hybridomas is well known (see generally R. H. Kenneth, in *Monoclonal Antibodies: A New Dimension In Biological Analyses*, Plenum Publishing Corp., New York, New York (1980); E. A. Lerner (1981) *Yale J. Biol. Med.*, 54:387-402; M. L. Gefter et al. (1977) *Somatic Cell Genet.* 3:231-36). Briefly, an
5 immortal cell line (typically a myeloma) is fused to lymphocytes (typically splenocytes) from a mammal immunized with an flh2882 immunogen as described above, and the culture supernatants of the resulting hybridoma cells are screened to identify a hybridoma producing a monoclonal antibody that binds flh2882.

Any of the many well known protocols used for fusing lymphocytes and
10 immortalized cell lines can be applied for the purpose of generating an anti-flh2882 monoclonal antibody (see, e.g., G. Galfre et al. (1977) *Nature* 266:55052; Gefter et al. *Somatic Cell Genet.*, cited *supra*; Lerner, *Yale J. Biol. Med.*, cited *supra*; Kenneth, *Monoclonal Antibodies*, cited *supra*). Moreover, the ordinarily skilled worker will appreciate that there are many variations of such methods which also would be useful.
15 Typically, the immortal cell line (e.g., a myeloma cell line) is derived from the same mammalian species as the lymphocytes. For example, murine hybridomas can be made by fusing lymphocytes from a mouse immunized with an immunogenic preparation of the present invention with an immortalized mouse cell line. Preferred immortal cell lines are mouse myeloma cell lines that are sensitive to culture medium containing
20 hypoxanthine, aminopterin and thymidine ("HAT medium"). Any of a number of myeloma cell lines can be used as a fusion partner according to standard techniques, e.g., the P3-NS1/1-Ag4-1, P3-x63-Ag8.653 or Sp2/O-Ag14 myeloma lines. These myeloma lines are available from ATCC. Typically, HAT-sensitive mouse myeloma cells are fused to mouse splenocytes using polyethylene glycol ("PEG"). Hybridoma
25 cells resulting from the fusion are then selected using HAT medium, which kills unfused and unproductively fused myeloma cells (unfused splenocytes die after several days because they are not transformed). Hybridoma cells producing a monoclonal antibody of the invention are detected by screening the hybridoma culture supernatants for antibodies that bind flh2882, e.g., using a standard ELISA assay.

30 Alternative to preparing monoclonal antibody-secreting hybridomas, a monoclonal anti-flh2882 antibody can be identified and isolated by screening a recombinant combinatorial immunoglobulin library (e.g., an antibody phage display library) with flh2882 to thereby isolate immunoglobulin library members that bind flh2882. Kits for generating and screening phage display libraries are commercially
35 available (e.g., the Pharmacia *Recombinant Phage Antibody System*, Catalog No. 27-9400-01; and the Stratagene *SurfZAP™ Phage Display Kit*, Catalog No. 240612). Additionally, examples of methods and reagents particularly amenable for use in

generating and screening antibody display library can be found in, for example, Ladner et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,223,409; Kang et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/18619; Dower et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 91/17271; Winter et al. PCT International Publication WO 92/20791; Markland et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/15679; Breitling et al. PCT International Publication WO 93/01288; McCafferty et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/01047; Garrard et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/09690; Ladner et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 90/02809; Fuchs et al. (1991) *Bio/Technology* 9:1370-1372; Hay et al. (1992) *Hum. Antibod. Hybridomas* 3:81-85; Huse et al. (1989) *Science* 246:1275-1281; Griffiths et al. (1993) *EMBO J* 12:725-734; Hawkins et al. (1992) *J. Mol. Biol.* 226:889-896; Clarkson et al. (1991) *Nature* 352:624-628; Gram et al. (1992) *PNAS* 89:3576-3580; Garrad et al. (1991) *Bio/Technology* 9:1373-1377; Hoogenboom et al. (1991) *Nuc. Acid Res.* 19:4133-4137; Barbas et al. (1991) *PNAS* 88:7978-7982; and McCafferty et al. *Nature* (1990) 348:552-554.

Additionally, recombinant anti-flh2882 antibodies, such as chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies, comprising both human and non-human fragments, which can be made using standard recombinant DNA techniques, are within the scope of the invention. Such chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies can be produced by recombinant DNA techniques known in the art, for example using methods described in Robinson et al. PCT International Application No. PCT/US86/02269; Akira, et al. European Patent Application 184,187; Taniguchi, M., European Patent Application 171,496; Morrison et al. European Patent Application 173,494; Neuberger et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 86/01533; Cabilly et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567; Cabilly et al. European Patent Application 125,023; Better et al. (1988) *Science* 240:1041-1043; Liu et al. (1987) *PNAS* 84:3439-3443; Liu et al. (1987) *J. Immunol.* 139:3521-3526; Sun et al. (1987) *PNAS* 84:214-218; Nishimura et al. (1987) *Canc. Res.* 47:999-1005; Wood et al. (1985) *Nature* 314:446-449; and Shaw et al. (1988) *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* 80:1553-1559; Morrison, S. L. (1985) *Science* 229:1202-1207; Oi et al. (1986) *BioTechniques* 4:214; Winter U.S. Patent 5,225,539; Jones et al. (1986) *Nature* 321:552-525; Verhoeyan et al. (1988) *Science* 239:1534; and Beidler et al. (1988) *J. Immunol.* 141:4053-4060.

An anti-flh2882 antibody (e.g., monoclonal antibody) can be used to isolate flh2882 proteins by standard techniques, such as affinity chromatography or immunoprecipitation. An anti-flh2882 antibody can facilitate the purification of natural flh2882 protein from cells and recombinantly produced flh2882 protein expressed in host cells. Moreover, an anti-flh2882 antibody can be used to detect flh2882 protein (e.g., in a cellular lysate or cell supernatant) in order to evaluate the abundance and

pattern of expression of the *flh2882* protein. The detection of circulating fragments of an *flh2882* protein can be used to identify *flh2882* protein turnover in a subject. Anti-*flh2882* antibodies can be used diagnostically to monitor protein levels in tissue as part of a clinical testing procedure, e.g., to, for example, determine the efficacy of a given treatment regimen. Detection can be facilitated by coupling (i.e., physically linking) the antibody to a detectable substance. Examples of detectable substances include various enzymes, prosthetic groups, fluorescent materials, luminescent materials, bioluminescent materials, and radioactive materials. Examples of suitable enzymes include horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, β -galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; examples of suitable prosthetic group complexes include streptavidin/biotin and avidin/biotin; examples of suitable fluorescent materials include umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or phycoerythrin; an example of a luminescent material includes luminol; examples of bioluminescent materials include luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin, and examples of suitable radioactive material include ^{125}I , ^{131}I , ^{35}S or ^3H .

III. Isolated *flh2882* Nucleic Acid Molecules

The present invention further provides isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode an *flh2882* protein, hereinafter the *flh2882* gene or *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule, as well as fragments of an *flh2882* gene.

As used herein, the term "nucleic acid molecule" is intended to include DNA molecules (e.g., cDNA or genomic DNA) and RNA molecules (e.g., mRNA) and analogs of the DNA or RNA generated using nucleotide analogs. The nucleic acid molecule can be single-stranded or double-stranded, but preferably is double-stranded DNA.

As used herein, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule is one that is separated from other nucleic acid molecules that are present in the natural source of the nucleic acid. Preferably, an "isolated" nucleic acid is free of sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid (i.e., sequences located at the 5' and 3' ends of the nucleic acid) in the genomic DNA of the organism from which the nucleic acid is derived. For example, in various embodiments, the isolated *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule can contain less than about 5 kb, 4 kb, 3 kb, 2 kb, 1 kb, 0.5 kb or 0.1 kb of nucleotide sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid molecule in genomic DNA of the cell from which the nucleic acid is derived (e.g., a substantia nigra cell). Moreover, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule, such as a cDNA molecule, can be substantially free of other cellular material, or culture medium when produced by recombinant techniques, or chemical

precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized. However, the *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule can be fused to other protein encoding or regulatory sequences and still be considered isolated.

The isolated nucleic acid molecules of the present invention encode an *flh2882* protein. As described above, an *flh2882* protein is defined as a protein comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO:2 (human *flh2882* protein), allelic variants of human *flh2882* protein, and orthologues of the human *flh2882* protein. A preferred *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 or the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited with ATCC (American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209) on October 2, 1998, as Accession Number 98914. The sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 corresponds to the human *flh2882* cDNA. This cDNA comprises sequences encoding the human *flh2882* protein (i.e., "the coding region", from nucleotides 184 to 1194 of SEQ ID NO:1), as well as 5' untranslated sequences (nucleotides 1 to 183 of SEQ ID NO:1) and 3' untranslated sequences (nucleotides 1195 to 2581 of SEQ ID NO:1). Alternatively, the nucleic acid molecule can comprise only the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 (e.g., nucleotides 184 to 1194 shown separately as SEQ ID NO:3).

The human *flh2882* gene is approximately 2581 nucleotides in length and encodes a full length protein having a molecular weight of approximately 38.7 KDa and which is approximately 337 amino acid residues in length. The human *flh2882* protein is expressed primarily in the brain, particularly the substantia nigra. Based on structural analysis, amino acid residues 11-28 (SEQ ID NO:4), 43-62 (SEQ ID NO:5), 80-102 (SEQ ID NO:6), 121-146 (SEQ ID NO:7), 169-190 (SEQ ID NO:8), 247-265 (SEQ ID NO:9), and 280-300 (SEQ ID NO:10) comprise transmembrane domains. As used herein, the term "transmembrane domain" refers to a structural amino acid motif which includes a hydrophobic helix that spans the plasma membrane.

The invention further encompasses nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 (and fragments thereof) due to degeneracy of the genetic code and thus encode the same *flh2882* protein as that encoded by the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

In another preferred embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention comprises a nucleic acid molecule which is a complement of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited with ATCC as Accession Number 98914, or a fragment of either of these nucleotide sequences. A nucleic acid molecule which is complementary to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 is one which is sufficiently complementary

to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 such that it can hybridize to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, thereby forming a stable duplex.

Orthologues and allelic variants of the human *flh2882* gene can readily be identified using methods well known in the art. Allelic variants and orthologues of the human *flh2882* gene will comprise a nucleotide sequence that is at least about 60-65%, typically at least about 70-75%, more typically at least about 80-85%, and most typically at least about 90-95% or more homologous to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, or to the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited with ATCC as Accession Number 98914, or a fragment of these nucleotide sequences. Such nucleic acid molecules can readily be identified as being able to hybridize, preferably under stringent conditions, to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, or the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited with ATCC as Accession Number 98914, or a fragment of either of these nucleotide sequences.

Moreover, the nucleic acid molecule of the invention can comprise only a fragment of the coding region of an *flh2882* gene, such as a fragment of SEQ ID NO:1. The nucleotide sequence determined from the cloning of the human *flh2882* gene allows for the generation of probes and primers designed for use in identifying and/or cloning *flh2882* gene homologues from other cell types, e.g., from other tissues, as well as *flh2882* gene orthologues from other mammals. A probe/primer typically comprises substantially purified oligonucleotide. The oligonucleotide typically comprises a region of nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to at least about 12, preferably about 25, more preferably about 40, 50 or 75 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 sense, an anti-sense sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or naturally occurring mutants thereof. Primers based on the nucleotide sequence in SEQ ID NO:1 can be used in PCR reactions to clone *flh2882* gene homologues. Probes based on the *flh2882* nucleotide sequence can be used to detect transcripts or genomic sequences encoding the same or homologous proteins. In preferred embodiments, the probe further comprises a label group attached thereto, e.g., the label group can be a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, an enzyme, or an enzyme co-factor. Such probes can be used as a part of a diagnostic test kit for identifying cells or tissue which misexpress an *flh2882* protein, such as by measuring a level of an *flh2882*-encoding nucleic acid in a sample of cells from a subject e.g., detecting *flh2882* mRNA levels or determining whether a genomic *flh2882* gene has been mutated or deleted.

In addition to the *flh2882* nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that DNA sequence polymorphisms that lead to changes in the amino acid sequences of an *flh2882* protein may exist within a population (e.g., the human population). Such genetic polymorphism in the *flh2882* gene may exist

among individuals within a population due to natural allelic variation. As used herein, the terms "gene" and "recombinant gene" refer to nucleic acid molecules comprising an open reading frame encoding an flh2882 protein, preferably a mammalian flh2882 protein. Such natural allelic variations can typically result in 1-5% variance in the nucleotide sequence of the *flh2882* gene. Any and all such nucleotide variations and resulting amino acid polymorphisms in an *flh2882* gene that are the result of natural allelic variation are intended to be within the scope of the invention. Such allelic variation includes both active allelic variants as well as non-active or reduced activity allelic variants, the later two types typically giving rise to a pathological disorder.

Moreover, nucleic acid molecules encoding flh2882 proteins from other species, and thus which have a nucleotide sequence which differs from the human sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, are intended to be within the scope of the invention. Nucleic acid molecules corresponding to natural allelic variants and non-human orthologues of the human *flh2882* cDNA of the invention can be isolated based on their homology to the human *flh2882* nucleic acid disclosed herein using the human cDNA, or a fragment thereof, as a hybridization probe according to standard hybridization techniques under stringent hybridization conditions.

Accordingly, in another embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention is at least 15 nucleotides in length and hybridizes under stringent conditions to the nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. In other embodiments, the nucleic acid is at least 30, 50, 100, 250 or 500 nucleotides in length. As used herein, the term "hybridizes under stringent conditions" is intended to describe conditions for hybridization and washing under which nucleotide sequences at least 60% homologous to each other typically remain hybridized to each other. Preferably, the conditions are such that sequences at least about 65%, more preferably at least about 70%, and even more preferably at least about 75% or more homologous to each other typically remain hybridized to each other. Such stringent conditions are known to those skilled in the art and can be found in *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. (1989), 6.3.1-6.3.6. A preferred, non-limiting example of stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization in 6X sodium chloride/sodium citrate (SSC) at about 45°C, followed by one or more washes in 0.2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50-65°C. Preferably, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 corresponds to a naturally-occurring nucleic acid molecule. As used herein, a "naturally-occurring" nucleic acid molecule refers to an RNA or DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence that occurs in nature (e.g., encodes a natural protein). In one embodiment, the nucleic acid encodes a natural human flh2882.

In addition to naturally-occurring allelic variants of the *flh2882* nucleic acid sequence that may exist in the population, the skilled artisan will further appreciate that changes can be introduced by mutation into the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, thereby leading to changes in the amino acid sequence of the encoded flh2882 protein, without altering the functional ability of the flh2882 protein. For example, nucleotide substitutions leading to amino acid substitutions at "non-essential" amino acid residues can be made in the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. A "non-essential" amino acid residue is a residue that can be altered from the wild-type sequence of an flh2882 protein (e.g., the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2) without altering the activity of flh2882, whereas an "essential" amino acid residue is required for flh2882 protein activity. For example, conserved amino acid residues, e.g., aspartates, prolines, threonines, and tyrosines, in the transmembrane domains of the flh2882 protein are most likely important for binding to ligand and are thus essential residues of the flh2882 protein. Other amino acid residues, however, (e.g., those that are not conserved or only semi-conserved in the transmembrane domain) may not be essential for activity and thus are likely to be amenable to alteration without altering flh2882 protein activity.

Accordingly, another aspect of the invention pertains to nucleic acid molecules encoding flh2882 proteins that contain changes in amino acid residues that are not essential for flh2882 activity. Such flh2882 proteins differ in amino acid sequence from SEQ ID NO:2 yet retain at least one of the flh2882 activities described herein. In one embodiment, the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein, wherein the protein comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 30-35%, preferably at least about 40-45%, more preferably at least about 50-55%, even more preferably at least about 60-65%, yet more preferably at least about 70-75%, still more preferably at least about 80-85%, and most preferably at least about 90-95% or more homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding an flh2882 protein homologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO:2 can be created by introducing one or more nucleotide substitutions, additions or deletions into the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, such that one or more amino acid substitutions, additions or deletions are introduced into the encoded protein. Mutations can be introduced into SEQ ID NO:1 by standard techniques, such as site-directed mutagenesis and PCR-mediated mutagenesis. Preferably, conservative amino acid substitutions are made at one or more predicted non-essential amino acid residues. A "conservative amino acid substitution" is one in which the amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a similar side chain. Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains have been defined in the art. These families include amino acids with basic side chains (e.g.,

lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (e.g., aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (e.g., glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine), non-polar side chains (e.g., alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), beta-branched side chains (e.g.,
5 threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (e.g., tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). Thus, a predicted nonessential amino acid residue in *flh2882* is preferably replaced with another amino acid residue from the same side chain family. Alternatively, in another embodiment, mutations can be introduced randomly along all or part of an *flh2882* coding sequence, such as by saturation mutagenesis, and the
10 resultant mutants can be screened for an *flh2882* activity described herein to identify mutants that retain *flh2882* activity. Following mutagenesis of SEQ ID NO:1, the encoded protein can be expressed recombinantly (e.g., as described in Examples 3 and 4) and the activity of the protein can be determined using, for example, assays described herein.

15 In addition to the nucleic acid molecules encoding *flh2882* proteins described above, another aspect of the invention pertains to isolated nucleic acid molecules which are antisense thereto. An "antisense" nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to a "sense" nucleic acid encoding a protein, e.g., complementary to the coding strand of a double-stranded cDNA molecule or
20 complementary to an mRNA sequence. Accordingly, an antisense nucleic acid can hydrogen bond to a sense nucleic acid. The antisense nucleic acid can be complementary to an entire *flh2882* coding strand, or to only a fragment thereof. In one embodiment, an antisense nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "coding region" of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence encoding an *flh2882* protein.

25 The term "coding region" refers to the region of the nucleotide sequence comprising codons which are translated into amino acid residues, e.g., the entire coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 comprises nucleotides 184 to 1194 (shown separately as SEQ ID NO:3). In another embodiment, the antisense nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "noncoding region" of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence encoding an *flh2882*
30 protein. The term "noncoding region" refers to 5' and 3' sequences which flank the coding region that are not translated into amino acids (i.e., also referred to as 5' and 3' untranslated regions).

Given the coding strand sequence encoding the *flh2882* protein disclosed herein (e.g., SEQ ID NO:1), antisense nucleic acids of the invention can be designed according
35 to the rules of Watson and Crick base pairing. The antisense nucleic acid molecule can be complementary to the entire coding region of *flh2882* mRNA, but more preferably is an oligonucleotide which is antisense to only a fragment of the coding or noncoding

region of *flh2882* mRNA. For example, the antisense oligonucleotide can be complementary to the region surrounding the translation start site of *flh2882* mRNA. An antisense oligonucleotide can be, for example, about 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 50 nucleotides in length. An antisense nucleic acid of the invention can be

5 constructed using chemical synthesis and enzymatic ligation reactions using procedures known in the art. For example, an antisense nucleic acid (e.g., an antisense oligonucleotide) can be chemically synthesized using naturally occurring nucleotides or variously modified nucleotides designed to increase the biological stability of the molecules or to increase the physical stability of the duplex formed between the

10 antisense and sense nucleic acids, e.g., phosphorothioate derivatives and acridine substituted nucleotides can be used. Examples of modified nucleotides which can be used to generate the antisense nucleic acid include 5-fluorouracil, 5-bromouracil, 5-chlorouracil, 5-iodouracil, hypoxanthine, xanthine, 4-acetylcytosine, 5-

15 (carboxyhydroxymethyl) uracil, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyl-2-thiouridine, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyluracil, dihydrouracil, beta-D-galactosylqueosine, inosine, N6-isopentenyladenine, 1-methylguanine, 1-methylinosine, 2,2-dimethylguanine, 2-methyladenine, 2-methylguanine, 3-methylcytosine, 5-methylcytosine, N6-adenine, 7-methylguanine, 5-methylaminomethyluracil, 5-methoxyaminomethyl-2-thiouracil, beta-D-mannosylqueosine, 5'-methoxycarboxymethyluracil, 5-methoxyuracil, 2-methylthio-

20 N6-isopentenyladenine, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), wybutoxosine, pseudouracil, queosine, 2-thiocytosine, 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 2-thiouracil, 4-thiouracil, 5-methyluracil, uracil-5- oxyacetic acid methylester, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 3-(3-amino-3-N-2-carboxypropyl) uracil, (acp3)w, and 2,6-diaminopurine. Alternatively, the antisense nucleic acid can be produced biologically using an

25 expression vector into which a nucleic acid has been subcloned in an antisense orientation (i.e., RNA transcribed from the inserted nucleic acid will be of an antisense orientation to a target nucleic acid of interest, described further in the following subsection).

The antisense nucleic acid molecules of the invention are typically administered

30 to a subject or generated *in situ* such that they hybridize with or bind to cellular mRNA and/or genomic DNA encoding an *flh2882* protein to thereby inhibit expression of the protein, e.g., by inhibiting transcription and/or translation. The hybridization can be by conventional nucleotide complementarity to form a stable duplex, or, for example, in the case of an antisense nucleic acid molecule which binds to DNA duplexes, through

35 specific interactions in the major groove of the double helix. An example of a route of administration of an antisense nucleic acid molecule of the invention includes direct injection at a tissue site. Alternatively, an antisense nucleic acid molecule can be

modified to target selected cells and then administered systemically. For example, for systemic administration, an antisense molecule can be modified such that it specifically binds to a receptor or an antigen expressed on a selected cell surface, e.g., by linking the antisense nucleic acid molecule to a peptide or an antibody which binds to a cell surface
5 receptor or antigen. The antisense nucleic acid molecule can also be delivered to cells using the vectors described herein. To achieve sufficient intracellular concentrations of the antisense molecules, vector constructs in which the antisense nucleic acid molecule is placed under the control of a strong pol II or pol III promoter are preferred.

In yet another embodiment, the antisense nucleic acid molecule of the invention
10 is an α -anomeric nucleic acid molecule. An α -anomeric nucleic acid molecule forms specific double-stranded hybrids with complementary RNA in which, contrary to the usual β -units, the strands run parallel to each other (Gaultier et al. (1987) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 15:6625-6641). The antisense nucleic acid molecule can also comprise a 2'-*o*-methylribonucleotide (Inoue et al. (1987) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 15:6131-6148) or a
15 chimeric RNA-DNA analogue (Inoue et al. (1987) *FEBS Lett.* 215:327-330).

In still another embodiment, an antisense nucleic acid of the invention is a ribozyme. Ribozymes are catalytic RNA molecules with ribonuclease activity which are capable of cleaving a single-stranded nucleic acid, such as an mRNA, to which they have a complementary region. Thus, ribozymes (e.g., hammerhead ribozymes
20 (described in Haselhoff and Gerlach (1988) *Nature* 334:585-591)) can be used to catalytically cleave *flh2882* mRNA transcripts to thereby inhibit translation of *flh2882* mRNA. A ribozyme having specificity for an *flh2882*-encoding nucleic acid can be designed based upon the nucleotide sequence of an *flh2882* cDNA disclosed herein (i.e., SEQ ID NO:1). For example, a derivative of a *Tetrahymena* L-19 IVS RNA can be
25 constructed in which the nucleotide sequence of the active site is complementary to the nucleotide sequence to be cleaved in an *flh2882*-encoding mRNA. See, e.g., Cech et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,987,071 and Cech et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,116,742. Alternatively, *flh2882* mRNA can be used to select a catalytic RNA having a specific ribonuclease activity from a pool of RNA molecules. See, e.g., Bartel, D. and Szostak, J.W. (1993)
30 *Science* 261:1411-1418.

Alternatively, *flh2882* gene expression can be inhibited by targeting nucleotide sequences complementary to the regulatory region of the *flh2882* gene (e.g., the *flh2882* gene promoter and/or enhancers) to form triple helical structures that prevent transcription of the *flh2882* gene in target cells. See generally, Helene, C. (1991)
35 *Anticancer Drug Des.* 6(6):569-84; Helene, C. et al. (1992) *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 660:27-36; and Maher, L.J. (1992) *Bioassays* 14(12):807-15.

IV. Recombinant Expression Vectors and Host Cells

Another aspect of the invention pertains to vectors, preferably expression vectors, containing a nucleic acid encoding an flh2882 protein (or a fragment thereof). As used herein, the term "vector" refers to a nucleic acid molecule capable of

5 transporting another nucleic acid to which it has been linked. One type of vector is a "plasmid", which refers to a circular double stranded DNA loop into which additional DNA segments can be ligated. Another type of vector is a viral vector, wherein additional DNA segments can be ligated into the viral genome. Certain vectors are capable of autonomous replication in a host cell into which they are introduced (e.g.,

10 bacterial vectors having a bacterial origin of replication and episomal mammalian vectors). Other vectors (e.g., non-episomal mammalian vectors) are integrated into the genome of a host cell upon introduction into the host cell, and thereby are replicated along with the host genome. Moreover, certain vectors are capable of directing the expression of genes to which they are operatively linked. Such vectors are referred to

15 herein as "expression vectors". In general, expression vectors of utility in recombinant DNA techniques are often in the form of plasmids. In the present specification, "plasmid" and "vector" can be used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly used form of vector. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression vectors, such as viral vectors (e.g., replication defective

20 retroviruses, adenoviruses and adeno-associated viruses), which serve equivalent functions.

The recombinant expression vectors of the invention comprise a nucleic acid of the invention in a form suitable for expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell, which means that the recombinant expression vectors include one or more regulatory

25 sequences, selected on the basis of the host cells to be used for expression, which is operatively linked to the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed. Within a recombinant expression vector, "operably linked" is intended to mean that the nucleotide sequence of interest is linked to the regulatory sequence(s) in a manner which allows for expression of the nucleotide sequence (e.g., in an *in vitro* transcription/translation system or in a

30 host cell when the vector is introduced into the host cell). The term "regulatory sequence" is intended to include promoters, enhancers and other expression control elements (e.g., polyadenylation signals). Such regulatory sequences are described, for example, in Goeddel; *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). Regulatory sequences include those which

35 direct constitutive expression of a nucleotide sequence in many types of host cell and those which direct expression of the nucleotide sequence only in certain host cells (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory sequences). It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art

that the design of the expression vector can depend on such factors as the choice of the host cell to be transformed, the level of expression of protein desired, etc. The expression vectors of the invention can be introduced into host cells to thereby produce proteins or peptides, including fusion proteins or peptides, encoded by nucleic acids as described herein (e.g., flh2882 proteins, altered forms of flh2882 proteins, fusion proteins, and the like).

The recombinant expression vectors of the invention can be designed for expression of an flh2882 protein in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells. For example, an flh2882 protein can be expressed in bacterial cells such as *E. coli*, insect cells (e.g., using baculovirus expression vectors) yeast cells or mammalian cells. Suitable host cells are discussed further in Goeddel, *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). Alternatively, the recombinant expression vector can be transcribed and translated *in vitro*, for example using T7 promoter regulatory sequences and T7 polymerase.

Expression of proteins in prokaryotes is most often carried out in *E. coli* with vectors containing constitutive or inducible promoters directing the expression of either fusion or non-fusion proteins. Fusion vectors add a number of amino acids to a protein encoded therein, usually to the amino terminus of the recombinant protein. Such fusion vectors typically serve three purposes: 1) to increase expression of recombinant protein; 2) to increase the solubility of the recombinant protein; and 3) to aid in the purification of the recombinant protein by acting as a ligand in affinity purification. Often, in fusion expression vectors, a proteolytic cleavage site is introduced at the junction of the fusion moiety and the recombinant protein to enable separation of the recombinant protein from the fusion moiety subsequent to purification of the fusion protein. Such enzymes, and their cognate recognition sequences, include Factor Xa, thrombin and enterokinase. Typical fusion expression vectors include pGEX (Pharmacia Biotech Inc; Smith, D.B. and Johnson, K.S. (1988) *Gene* 67:31-40), pMAL (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA) and pRIT5 (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ) which fuse glutathione S-transferase (GST), maltose E binding protein, or protein A, respectively, to the target recombinant protein. In one embodiment, the coding sequence of the *flh2882* gene is cloned into a pGEX expression vector to create a vector encoding a fusion protein comprising, from the N-terminus to the C-terminus, GST-thrombin cleavage site-flh2882 protein. The fusion protein can be purified by affinity chromatography using glutathione-agarose resin. Recombinant flh2882 protein unfused to GST can be recovered by cleavage of the fusion protein with thrombin.

- Examples of suitable inducible non-fusion *E. coli* expression vectors include pTrc (Amann et al., (1988) *Gene* 69:301-315) and pET 11d (Studier et al., *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 60-89). Target gene expression from the pTrc vector relies on host RNA polymerase transcription from a hybrid trp-lac fusion promoter. Target gene expression from the pET 11d vector relies on transcription from a T7 gn10-lac fusion promoter mediated by a coexpressed viral RNA polymerase (T7 gn1). This viral polymerase is supplied by host strains BL21(DE3) or HMS174(DE3) from a resident λ prophage harboring a T7 gn1 gene under the transcriptional control of the lacUV 5 promoter.
- One strategy to maximize recombinant protein expression in *E. coli* is to express the protein in a host bacteria with an impaired capacity to proteolytically cleave the recombinant protein (Gottesman, S., *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 119-128). Another strategy is to alter the nucleic acid sequence of the nucleic acid to be inserted into an expression vector so that the individual codons for each amino acid are those preferentially utilized in *E. coli* (Wada et al. (1992) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 20:2111-2118). Such alteration of nucleic acid sequences of the invention can be carried out by standard DNA synthesis techniques.
- In another embodiment, the *flh2882* gene expression vector is a yeast expression vector. Examples of vectors for expression in yeast *S. cerevisiae* include pYepSec1 (Baldari, et al., (1987) *Embo J.* 6:229-234), pMFa (Kurjan and Herskowitz, (1982) *Cell* 30:933-943), pJRY88 (Schultz et al., (1987) *Gene* 54:113-123), and pYES2 (Invitrogen Corporation, San Diego, CA).
- Alternatively, an *flh2882* gene can be expressed in insect cells using, for example, baculovirus expression vectors. Baculovirus vectors available for expression of proteins in cultured insect cells (e.g., Sf 9 cells) include the pAc series (Smith et al. (1983) *Mol. Cell Biol.* 3:2156-2165) and the pVL series (Lucklow and Summers (1989) *Virology* 170:31-39).
- In yet another embodiment, a nucleic acid of the invention is expressed in mammalian cells using a mammalian expression vector. Examples of mammalian expression vectors include pCDM8 (Seed, B. (1987) *Nature* 329:840) and pMT2PC (Kaufman et al. (1987) *EMBO J.* 6:187-195). When used in mammalian cells, the expression vector's control functions are often provided by viral regulatory elements. For example, commonly used promoters are derived from polyoma, Adenovirus 2, cytomegalovirus and Simian Virus 40. For other suitable expression systems for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F.,

and Maniatis, T. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989.

5 In another embodiment, the recombinant mammalian expression vector is capable of directing expression of the nucleic acid preferentially in a particular cell type (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory elements are used to express the nucleic acid). Tissue-specific regulatory elements are known in the art. Non-limiting examples of suitable tissue-specific promoters include the albumin promoter (liver-specific; Pinkert et al. (1987) *Genes Dev.* 1:268-277), lymphoid-specific promoters (Calame and Eaton (1988) *Adv. Immunol.* 43:235-275), in particular promoters of T cell receptors (Winoto and Baltimore (1989) *EMBO J.* 8:729-733) and immunoglobulins (Banerji et al. (1983) *Cell* 33:729-740; Queen and Baltimore (1983) *Cell* 33:741-748), neuron-specific promoters (e.g., the neurofilament promoter; Byrne and Ruddle (1989) *PNAS* 86:5473-5477), pancreas-specific promoters (Edlund et al. (1985) *Science* 230:912-916), and mammary gland-specific promoters (e.g., milk whey promoter; U.S. Patent No. 4,873,316 and European Application Publication No. 264,166). Developmentally-regulated promoters are also encompassed, for example the murine hox promoters (Kessel and Gruss (1990) *Science* 249:374-379) and the α -fetoprotein promoter (Campes and Tilghman (1989) *Genes Dev.* 3:537-546).

20 The invention further provides a recombinant expression vector comprising a DNA molecule encoding an flh2882 protein cloned into the expression vector in an antisense orientation. That is, the DNA molecule is operatively linked to a regulatory sequence in a manner which allows for expression (by transcription of the DNA molecule) of an RNA molecule which is antisense to flh2882 mRNA. Regulatory sequences operatively linked to a nucleic acid cloned in the antisense orientation can be chosen which direct the continuous expression of the antisense RNA molecule in a variety of cell types, for instance viral promoters and/or enhancers, or regulatory sequences can be chosen which direct constitutive, tissue specific or cell type specific expression of antisense RNA. The antisense expression vector can be in the form of a recombinant plasmid, phagemid or attenuated virus in which antisense nucleic acids are produced under the control of a high efficiency regulatory region, the activity of which can be determined by the cell type into which the vector is introduced. For a discussion of the regulation of gene expression using antisense genes see Weintraub, H. et al., Antisense RNA as a molecular tool for genetic analysis, *Reviews - Trends in Genetics*, Vol. 1(1) 1986.

Another aspect of the invention pertains to host cells into which a recombinant expression vector of the invention has been introduced. The terms "host cell" and "recombinant host cell" are used interchangeably herein. It is understood that such terms refer not only to the particular subject cell but to the progeny or potential progeny of such a cell. Because certain modifications may occur in succeeding generations due to either mutation or environmental influences, such progeny may not, in fact, be identical to the parent cell, but are still included within the scope of the term as used herein.

A host cell can be any prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell. For example, flh2882 protein can be expressed in bacterial cells such as *E. coli*, insect cells, yeast or mammalian cells (such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO) or COS cells). Other suitable host cells are known to those skilled in the art.

Vector DNA can be introduced into prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells via conventional transformation or transfection techniques. As used herein, the terms "transformation" and "transfection" are intended to refer to a variety of art-recognized techniques for introducing foreign nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) into a host cell, including calcium phosphate or calcium chloride co-precipitation, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection, lipofection, or electroporation. Suitable methods for transforming or transfecting host cells can be found in Sambrook, et al. (*Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989), and other laboratory manuals.

For stable transfection of mammalian cells, it is known that, depending upon the expression vector and transfection technique used, only a small fraction of cells may integrate the foreign DNA into their genome. In order to identify and select these integrants, a gene that encodes a selectable marker (e.g., resistance to antibiotics) is generally introduced into the host cells along with the gene of interest. Preferred selectable markers include those which confer resistance to drugs, such as G418, hygromycin and methotrexate. Nucleic acid encoding a selectable marker can be introduced into a host cell on the same vector as that encoding the flh2882 protein or can be introduced on a separate vector. Cells stably transfected with the introduced nucleic acid can be identified by drug selection (e.g., cells that have incorporated the selectable marker gene will survive, while the other cells die).

A host cell of the invention, such as a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell in culture, can be used to produce (i.e., express) flh2882 protein. Accordingly, the invention further provides methods for producing flh2882 protein using the host cells of the invention. In one embodiment, the method comprises culturing the host cell of invention (into which a recombinant expression vector encoding an flh2882 protein has

been introduced) in a suitable medium until the *flh2882* protein is produced. In another embodiment, the method further comprises isolating the *flh2882* protein from the medium or the host cell.

The host cells of the invention can also be used to produce non-human transgenic animals. The non-human transgenic animals can be used in screening assays designed to identify agents or compounds, e.g., drugs, pharmaceuticals, etc., which are capable of ameliorating detrimental symptoms of selected disorders such as nervous system disorders, e.g., psychiatric disorders or disorders affecting circadian rhythms and the sleep-wake cycle. For example, in one embodiment, a host cell of the invention is a fertilized oocyte or an embryonic stem cell into which *flh2882* protein-coding sequences have been introduced. Such host cells can then be used to create non-human transgenic animals in which exogenous *flh2882* gene sequences have been introduced into their genome or homologous recombinant animals in which endogenous *flh2882* gene sequences have been altered. Such animals are useful for studying the function and/or activity of an *flh2882* protein and for identifying and/or evaluating modulators of *flh2882* protein activity. As used herein, a "transgenic animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, more preferably a rodent such as a rat or mouse, in which one or more of the cells of the animal include a transgene. Other examples of transgenic animals include non-human primates, sheep, dogs, cows, goats, chickens, amphibians, and the like. A transgene is exogenous DNA which is integrated into the genome of a cell from which a transgenic animal develops and which remains in the genome of the mature animal, thereby directing the expression of an encoded gene product in one or more cell types or tissues of the transgenic animal. As used herein, a "homologous recombinant animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, more preferably a mouse, in which an endogenous *flh2882* gene has been altered by homologous recombination between the endogenous gene and an exogenous DNA molecule introduced into a cell of the animal, e.g., an embryonic cell of the animal, prior to development of the animal.

A transgenic animal of the invention can be created by introducing *flh2882* protein encoding nucleic acid into the male pronuclei of a fertilized oocyte, e.g., by microinjection, retroviral infection, and allowing the oocyte to develop in a pseudopregnant female foster animal. The human *flh2882* cDNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 can be introduced as a transgene into the genome of a non-human animal. Moreover, a non-human homologue of the human *flh2882* gene, such as a mouse *flh2882* gene, can be isolated based on hybridization to the human *flh2882* cDNA (described further above) and used as a transgene. Intronic sequences and polyadenylation signals can also be included in the transgene to increase the efficiency

of expression of the transgene. A tissue-specific regulatory sequence(s) can be operably linked to the *flh2882* transgene to direct expression of an *flh2882* protein to particular cells. Methods for generating transgenic animals via embryo manipulation and microinjection, particularly animals such as mice, have become conventional in the art and are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,736,866 and 4,870,009, both by Leder et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,873,191 by Wagner et al. and in Hogan, B., *Manipulating the Mouse Embryo*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1986). Similar methods are used for production of other transgenic animals. A transgenic founder animal can be identified based upon the presence of the *flh2882* transgene in its genome and/or expression of *flh2882* mRNA in tissues or cells of the animals. A transgenic founder animal can then be used to breed additional animals carrying the transgene. Moreover, transgenic animals carrying a transgene encoding an *flh2882* protein can further be bred to other transgenic animals carrying other transgenes.

To create a homologous recombinant animal, a vector is prepared which contains at least a fragment of an *flh2882* gene into which a deletion, addition or substitution has been introduced to thereby alter, e.g., functionally disrupt, the *flh2882* gene. The *flh2882* gene can be a human gene (e.g., from a human genomic clone isolated from a human genomic library screened with the cDNA of SEQ ID NO:1), but more preferably is a non-human homologue of a human *flh2882* gene. For example, a mouse *flh2882* gene can be isolated from a mouse genomic DNA library using the *flh2882* cDNA of SEQ ID NO:1 as a probe. The mouse *flh2882* gene then can be used to construct a homologous recombination vector suitable for altering an endogenous *flh2882* gene in the mouse genome. In a preferred embodiment, the vector is designed such that, upon homologous recombination, the endogenous *flh2882* gene is functionally disrupted (i.e., no longer encodes a functional protein; also referred to as a "knock out" vector). Alternatively, the vector can be designed such that, upon homologous recombination, the endogenous *flh2882* gene is mutated or otherwise altered but still encodes functional protein (e.g., the upstream regulatory region can be altered to thereby alter the expression of the endogenous *flh2882* protein). In the homologous recombination vector, the altered fragment of the *flh2882* gene is flanked at its 5' and 3' ends by additional nucleic acid of the *flh2882* gene to allow for homologous recombination to occur between the exogenous *flh2882* gene carried by the vector and an endogenous *flh2882* gene in an embryonic stem cell. The additional flanking *flh2882* nucleic acid is of sufficient length for successful homologous recombination with the endogenous gene. Typically, several kilobases of flanking DNA (both at the 5' and 3' ends) are included in the vector (see for example, Thomas, K.R. and Capecchi, M. R. (1987) *Cell* 51:503 for a

description of homologous recombination vectors). The vector is introduced into an embryonic stem cell line (e.g., by electroporation) and cells in which the introduced *flh2882* gene has homologously recombined with the endogenous *flh2882* gene are selected (see e.g., Li, E. et al. (1992) *Cell* 69:915). The selected cells are then injected
5 into a blastocyst of an animal (e.g., a mouse) to form aggregation chimeras (see e.g., Bradley, A. in *Teratocarcinomas and Embryonic Stem Cells: A Practical Approach*, E.J. Robertson, ed. (IRL, Oxford, 1987) pp. 113-152). A chimeric embryo can then be implanted into a suitable pseudopregnant female foster animal and the embryo brought to term. Progeny harboring the homologously recombined DNA in their germ cells can
10 be used to breed animals in which all cells of the animal contain the homologously recombined DNA by germline transmission of the transgene. Methods for constructing homologous recombination vectors and homologous recombinant animals are described further in Bradley, A. (1991) *Current Opinion in Biotechnology* 2:823-829 and in PCT International Publication Nos. WO 90/11354; WO 91/01140; WO 92/0968; and WO
15 93/04169.

In another embodiment, transgenic non-human animals can be produced which contain selected systems which allow for regulated expression of the transgene. One example of such a system is the *cre/loxP* recombinase system of bacteriophage P1. For a description of the *cre/loxP* recombinase system, see, e.g., Lakso et al. (1992) *PNAS*
20 89:6232-6236. Another example of a recombinase system is the FLP recombinase system of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (O'Gorman et al. (1991) *Science* 251:1351-1355. If a *cre/loxP* recombinase system is used to regulate expression of the transgene, animals containing transgenes encoding both the *Cre* recombinase and a selected protein are required. Such animals can be provided through the construction of "double" transgenic
25 animals, e.g., by mating two transgenic animals, one containing a transgene encoding a selected protein and the other containing a transgene encoding a recombinase.

Clones of the non-human transgenic animals described herein can also be produced according to the methods described in Wilmut, I. et al. (1997) *Nature* 385:810-813 and PCT International Publication Nos. WO 97/07668 and WO 97/07669. In brief,
30 a cell, e.g., a somatic cell, from the transgenic animal can be isolated and induced to exit the growth cycle and enter G₀ phase. The quiescent cell can then be fused, e.g., through the use of electrical pulses, to an enucleated oocyte from an animal of the same species from which the quiescent cell is isolated. The reconstructed oocyte is then cultured such that it develops to morula or blastocyst and then transferred to pseudopregnant female
35 foster animal. The offspring borne of this female foster animal will be a clone of the animal from which the cell, e.g., the somatic cell, is isolated.

V. Uses and Methods of the Invention

The nucleic acid molecules, proteins, protein homologues, modulators, and antibodies described herein can be used in one or more of the following methods: a) drug screening assays; b) diagnostic assays particularly in disease identification, allelic
5 screening and pharmacogenetic testing; c) methods of treatment; d) pharmacogenomics; and e) monitoring of effects during clinical trials. An flh2882 protein of the invention can be used as a drug target for developing agents to modulate the activity of the flh2882 protein (a GPCR). The isolated nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be used to
10 express flh2882 protein (e.g., via a recombinant expression vector in a host cell or in gene therapy applications), to detect *flh2882* mRNA (e.g., in a biological sample) or a naturally occurring or recombinantly generated genetic mutation in an *flh2882* gene, and to modulate flh2882 protein activity, as described further below. In addition, the flh2882 proteins can be used to screen drugs or compounds which modulate flh2882 protein activity. Moreover, the anti-flh2882 antibodies of the invention can be used to
15 detect and isolate an flh2882 protein, particularly fragments of an flh2882 protein present in a biological sample, and to modulate flh2882 protein activity.

a. Drug Screening Assays

The invention provides methods for identifying compounds or agents that can be
20 used to treat disorders characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or flh2882 protein activity. These methods are also referred to herein as drug screening assays and typically include the step of screening a candidate/test compound or agent to identify compounds that are an agonist or antagonist of an flh2882 protein, and specifically for the ability to interact with (e.g.,
25 bind to) an flh2882 protein, to modulate the interaction of an flh2882 protein and a target molecule, and/or to modulate *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or flh2882 protein activity. Candidate/test compounds or agents which have one or more of these abilities can be used as drugs to treat disorders characterized by aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or flh2882 protein activity. Candidate/test
30 compounds include, for example, 1) peptides such as soluble peptides, including Ig-tailed fusion peptides and members of random peptide libraries (see, e.g., Lam, K.S. et al. (1991) *Nature* 354:82-84; Houghten, R. et al. (1991) *Nature* 354:84-86) and combinatorial chemistry-derived molecular libraries made of D- and/or L- configuration amino acids; 2) phosphopeptides (e.g., members of random and partially degenerate,
35 directed phosphopeptide libraries, see, e.g., Songyang, Z. et al. (1993) *Cell* 72:767-778); 3) antibodies (e.g., polyclonal, monoclonal, humanized, anti-idiotypic, chimeric, and single chain antibodies as well as Fab, F(ab')₂, Fab expression library fragments, and

epitope-binding fragments of antibodies); and 4) small organic and inorganic molecules (e.g., molecules obtained from combinatorial and natural product libraries).

In one embodiment, the invention provides assays for screening candidate/test compounds which interact with (e.g., bind to) an flh2882 protein. Typically, the assays
5 are recombinant cell based or cell-free assays which include the steps of combining a cell expressing an flh2882 protein or a bioactive fragment thereof, or an isolated flh2882 protein, and a candidate/test compound, e.g., under conditions which allow for interaction of (e.g., binding of) the candidate/test compound to the flh2882 protein or fragment thereof to form a complex, and detecting the formation of a complex, in which
10 the ability of the candidate compound to interact with (e.g., bind to) the flh2882 protein or fragment thereof is indicated by the presence of the candidate compound in the complex. Formation of complexes between the flh2882 protein and the candidate compound can be detected using competition binding assays, and can be quantitated, for example, using standard immunoassays.

In another embodiment, the invention provides screening assays to identify candidate/test compounds which modulate (e.g., stimulate or inhibit) the interaction (and most likely flh2882 protein activity as well) between an flh2882 protein and a molecule (target molecule) with which the flh2882 protein normally interacts. Examples of such target molecules include proteins in the same signaling path as the flh2882 protein, e.g.,
20 proteins which may function upstream (including both stimulators and inhibitors of activity) or downstream of the flh2882 protein in, for example, a cognitive function signaling pathway or in a pathway involving flh2882 protein activity, e.g., a G protein or other interactor involved in cAMP or phosphatidylinositol turnover, and/or adenylate cyclase or phospholipase C activation. Typically, the assays are recombinant cell based assays which include the steps of combining a cell expressing an flh2882 protein, or a
25 bioactive fragment thereof, an flh2882 protein target molecule (e.g., an flh2882 ligand) and a candidate/test compound, e.g., under conditions wherein but for the presence of the candidate compound, the flh2882 protein or biologically active fragment thereof interacts with (e.g., binds to) the target molecule, and detecting the formation of a complex which includes the flh2882 protein and the target molecule or detecting the interaction/reaction of the flh2882 protein and the target molecule. Detection of complex formation can include direct quantitation of the complex by, for example, measuring inductive effects of the flh2882 protein. A statistically significant change, such as a decrease, in the interaction of the flh2882 protein and target molecule (e.g., in
30 the formation of a complex between the flh2882 protein and the target molecule) in the presence of a candidate compound (relative to what is detected in the absence of the candidate compound) is indicative of a modulation (e.g., stimulation or inhibition) of the

interaction between the flh2882 protein and the target molecule. Modulation of the formation of complexes between the flh2882 protein and the target molecule can be quantitated using, for example, an immunoassay.

To perform cell free drug screening assays, it is desirable to immobilize either
5 the flh2882 protein or its target molecule to facilitate separation of complexes from uncomplexed forms of one or both of the proteins, as well as to accommodate automation of the assay. Interaction (e.g., binding of) of the flh2882 protein to a target molecule, in the presence and absence of a candidate compound, can be accomplished in any vessel suitable for containing the reactants. Examples of such vessels include
10 microtitre plates, test tubes, and micro-centrifuge tubes. In one embodiment, a fusion protein can be provided which adds a domain that allows the protein to be bound to a matrix. For example, glutathione-S-transferase/flh2882 fusion proteins can be adsorbed onto glutathione sepharose beads (Sigma Chemical, St. Louis, MO) or glutathione derivatized microtitre plates, which are then combined with the cell lysates (e.g., ³⁵S-
15 labeled) and the candidate compound, and the mixture incubated under conditions conducive to complex formation (e.g., at physiological conditions for salt and pH). Following incubation, the beads are washed to remove any unbound label, and the matrix immobilized and radiolabel determined directly, or in the supernatant after the complexes are dissociated. Alternatively, the complexes can be dissociated from the
20 matrix, separated by SDS-PAGE, and the level of flh2882-binding protein found in the bead fraction quantitated from the gel using standard electrophoretic techniques.

Other techniques for immobilizing proteins on matrices can also be used in the drug screening assays of the invention. For example, either the flh2882 protein or its target molecule can be immobilized utilizing conjugation of biotin and streptavidin.
25 Biotinylated flh2882 protein molecules can be prepared from biotin-NHS (N-hydroxy-succinimide) using techniques well known in the art (e.g., biotinylation kit, Pierce Chemicals, Rockford, IL), and immobilized in the wells of streptavidin-coated 96 well plates (Pierce Chemical). Alternatively, antibodies reactive with an flh2882 protein but which do not interfere with binding of the protein to its target molecule can be
30 derivatized to the wells of the plate, and flh2882 protein trapped in the wells by antibody conjugation. As described above, preparations of an flh2882-binding protein and a candidate compound are incubated in the flh2882 protein-presenting wells of the plate, and the amount of complex trapped in the well can be quantitated. Methods for detecting such complexes, in addition to those described above for the GST-immobilized
35 complexes, include immunodetection of complexes using antibodies reactive with the flh2882 protein target molecule, or which are reactive with flh2882 protein and compete

with the target molecule; as well as enzyme-linked assays which rely on detecting an enzymatic activity associated with the target molecule.

In yet another embodiment, the invention provides a method for identifying a compound (e.g., a screening assay) capable of use in the treatment of a disorder characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression or flh2882 protein activity. This method typically includes the step of assaying the ability of the compound or agent to modulate the expression of the *flh2882* nucleic acid or the activity of the flh2882 protein thereby identifying a compound for treating a disorder characterized by aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression or flh2882 protein activity. Methods for assaying the ability of the compound or agent to modulate the expression of the *flh2882* nucleic acid or activity of the flh2882 protein are typically cell-based assays. For example, cells which are sensitive to ligands which transduce signals via a pathway involving an flh2882 protein can be induced to overexpress an flh2882 protein in the presence and absence of a candidate compound. Candidate compounds which produce a statistically significant change in flh2882 protein-dependent responses (either stimulation or inhibition) can be identified. In one embodiment, expression of the *flh2882* nucleic acid or activity of an flh2882 protein is modulated in cells and the effects of candidate compounds on the readout of interest (such as cAMP or phosphatidylinositol turnover) are measured. For example, the expression of genes which are up- or down-regulated in response to an flh2882 protein-dependent signal cascade can be assayed. In preferred embodiments, the regulatory regions of such genes, e.g., the 5' flanking promoter and enhancer regions, are operably linked to a detectable marker (such as luciferase) which encodes a gene product that can be readily detected. Phosphorylation of an flh2882 protein or flh2882 protein target molecules can also be measured, for example, by immunoblotting.

Alternatively, modulators of *flh2882* gene expression (e.g., compounds which can be used to treat a disorder characterized by aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression or flh2882 protein activity) can be identified in a method wherein a cell is contacted with a candidate compound and the expression of *flh2882* mRNA or protein in the cell is determined. The level of expression of *flh2882* mRNA or protein in the presence of the candidate compound is compared to the level of expression of *flh2882* mRNA or protein in the absence of the candidate compound. The candidate compound can then be identified as a modulator of *flh2882* nucleic acid expression based on this comparison and be used to treat a disorder characterized by aberrant *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. For example, when expression of *flh2882* mRNA or protein is greater (statistically significantly greater) in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence, the candidate compound is identified as a stimulator of *flh2882* nucleic acid

expression. Alternatively, when *flh2882* nucleic acid expression is less (statistically significantly less) in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence, the candidate compound is identified as an inhibitor of *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. The level of *flh2882* nucleic acid expression in the cells can be determined by methods

5 described herein for detecting *flh2882* mRNA or protein.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the *flh2882* proteins, or fragments thereof, can be used as "bait proteins" in a two-hybrid assay (see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 5,283,317; Zervos et al. (1993) *Cell* 72:223-232; Madura et al. (1993) *J. Biol. Chem.* 268:12046-12054; Bartel et al. (1993) *Biotechniques* 14:920-924; Iwabuchi et al. (1993) *Oncogene* 8:1693-1696; and Brent WO 94/10300), to identify other proteins, which bind
10 to or interact with the *flh2882* protein ("flh2882-binding proteins" or "flh2882-bp") and modulate *flh2882* protein activity. Such *flh2882*-binding proteins are also likely to be involved in the propagation of signals by the *flh2882* proteins as, for example, upstream or downstream elements of the *flh2882* protein pathway.

15 The two-hybrid system is based on the modular nature of most transcription factors, which consist of separable DNA-binding and activation domains. Bartel, P. et al. "Using the Two-Hybrid System to Detect Protein-Protein Interactions" in *Cellular Interactions in Development: A Practical Approach*, Hartley, D.A. ed. (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1993) pp. 153-179. Briefly, the assay utilizes two different
20 DNA constructs. In one construct, the gene that encode an *flh2882* protein is fused to a gene encoding the DNA binding domain of a known transcription factor (e.g., GAL-4). In the other construct, a DNA sequence, from a library of DNA sequences, that encodes an unidentified protein ("prey" or "sample") is fused to a gene that codes for the activation domain of the known transcription factor. If the "bait" and the "prey" proteins
25 are able to interact, *in vivo*, forming an *flh2882*-protein dependent complex, the DNA-binding and activation domains of the transcription factor are brought into close proximity. This proximity allows transcription of a reporter gene (e.g., *LacZ*) which is operably linked to a transcriptional regulatory site responsive to the transcription factor. Expression of the reporter gene can be detected and cell colonies containing the
30 functional transcription factor can be isolated and used to obtain the cloned gene which encodes the protein which interacts with the *flh2882* protein.

Modulators of *flh2882* protein activity and/or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression identified according to these drug screening assays can be used to treat, for example, nervous system disorders. These methods of treatment include the steps of
35 administering the modulators of *flh2882* protein activity and/or nucleic acid expression, e.g., in a pharmaceutical composition as described in subsection IV above, to a subject in need of such treatment, e.g., a subject with a disorder described herein.

b. Diagnostic Assays

The invention further provides a method for detecting the presence of an *flh2882* protein or *flh2882* nucleic acid molecule, or fragment thereof, in a biological sample. The method involves contacting the biological sample with a compound or an agent capable of detecting *flh2882* protein or mRNA such that the presence of *flh2882* protein/encoding nucleic acid molecule is detected in the biological sample. A preferred agent for detecting *flh2882* mRNA is a labeled or labelable nucleic acid probe capable of hybridizing to *flh2882* mRNA. The nucleic acid probe can be, for example, the full-length *flh2882* cDNA of SEQ ID NO:1, or a fragment thereof, such as an oligonucleotide of at least 15, 30, 50, 100, 250 or 500 nucleotides in length and sufficient to specifically hybridize under stringent conditions to *flh2882* mRNA. A preferred agent for detecting *flh2882* protein is a labeled or labelable antibody capable of binding to *flh2882* protein. Antibodies can be polyclonal, or more preferably, monoclonal. An intact antibody, or a fragment thereof (e.g., Fab or F(ab')₂) can be used. The term "labeled or labelable", with regard to the probe or antibody, is intended to encompass direct labeling of the probe or antibody by coupling (i.e., physically linking) a detectable substance to the probe or antibody, as well as indirect labeling of the probe or antibody by reactivity with another reagent that is directly labeled. Examples of indirect labeling include detection of a primary antibody using a fluorescently labeled secondary antibody and end-labeling of a DNA probe with biotin such that it can be detected with fluorescently labeled streptavidin. The term "biological sample" is intended to include tissues, cells and biological fluids isolated from a subject, as well as tissues, cells and fluids present within a subject. That is, the detection method of the invention can be used to detect *flh2882* mRNA or protein in a biological sample *in vitro* as well as *in vivo*. For example, *in vitro* techniques for detection of *flh2882* mRNA include Northern hybridizations and *in situ* hybridizations. *In vitro* techniques for detection of *flh2882* protein include enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), Western blots, immunoprecipitations and immunofluorescence. Alternatively, *flh2882* protein can be detected *in vivo* in a subject by introducing into the subject a labeled anti-*flh2882* antibody. For example, the antibody can be labeled with a radioactive marker whose presence and location in a subject can be detected by standard imaging techniques. Particularly useful are methods which detect the allelic variant of an *flh2882* protein expressed in a subject and methods which detect fragments of an *flh2882* protein in a sample.

The invention also encompasses kits for detecting the presence of an *flh2882* protein in a biological sample. For example, the kit can comprise reagents such as a labeled or labelable compound or agent capable of detecting *flh2882* protein or mRNA

in a biological sample; means for determining the amount of *flh2882* protein in the sample; and means for comparing the amount of *flh2882* protein in the sample with a standard. The compound or agent can be packaged in a suitable container. The kit can further comprise instructions for using the kit to detect *flh2882* mRNA or protein.

5 The methods of the invention can also be used to detect naturally occurring genetic mutations in an *flh2882* gene, thereby determining if a subject with the mutated gene is at risk for a disorder characterized by aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression or *flh2882* protein activity as described herein. In preferred embodiments, the methods include detecting, in a sample of cells from the subject, the presence or
10 absence of a genetic mutation characterized by at least one of an alteration affecting the integrity of a gene encoding an *flh2882* protein, or the misexpression of the *flh2882* gene. For example, such genetic mutations can be detected by ascertaining the existence of at least one of 1) a deletion of one or more nucleotides from an *flh2882* gene; 2) an
15 addition of one or more nucleotides to an *flh2882* gene; 3) a substitution of one or more nucleotides of an *flh2882* gene, 4) a chromosomal rearrangement of an *flh2882* gene; 5) an alteration in the level of a messenger RNA transcript of an *flh2882* gene, 6) aberrant modification of an *flh2882* gene, such as of the methylation pattern of the genomic
20 DNA, 7) the presence of a non-wild type splicing pattern of a messenger RNA transcript of an *flh2882* gene, 8) a non-wild type level of an *flh2882*-protein, 9) allelic loss of an *flh2882* gene, and 10) inappropriate post-translational modification of an *flh2882*-protein. As described herein, there are a large number of assay techniques known in the art that can be used for detecting mutations in an *flh2882* gene.

In certain embodiments, detection of the mutation involves the use of a probe/primer in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (see, e.g. U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195
25 and 4,683,202), such as anchor PCR or RACE PCR, or, alternatively, in a ligation chain reaction (LCR) (see, e.g., Landegran et al. (1988) *Science* 241:1077-1080; and Nakazawa et al. (1994) *PNAS* 91:360-364), the latter of which can be particularly useful for detecting point mutations in the *flh2882*-gene (see Abravaya et al. (1995) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 23:675-682). This method can include the steps of collecting a sample of
30 cells from a patient, isolating nucleic acid (e.g., genomic, mRNA or both) from the cells of the sample, contacting the nucleic acid sample with one or more primers which specifically hybridize to an *flh2882* gene under conditions such that hybridization and amplification of the *flh2882*-gene (if present) occurs, and detecting the presence or absence of an amplification product, or detecting the size of the amplification product
35 and comparing the length to a control sample.

In an alternative embodiment, mutations in an *flh2882* gene from a sample cell can be identified by alterations in restriction enzyme cleavage patterns. For example, sample and control DNA is isolated, amplified (optionally), digested with one or more restriction endonucleases, and fragment length sizes are determined by gel
5 electrophoresis and compared. Differences in fragment length sizes between sample and control DNA indicates mutations in the sample DNA. Moreover, the use of sequence specific ribozymes (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,498,531) can be used to score for the presence of specific mutations by development or loss of a ribozyme cleavage site.

10 In yet another embodiment, any of a variety of sequencing reactions known in the art can be used to directly sequence the *flh2882* gene and detect mutations by comparing the sequence of the sample *flh2882* gene with the corresponding wild-type (control) sequence. Examples of sequencing reactions include those based on techniques developed by Maxim and Gilbert ((1977) *PNAS* 74:560) or Sanger ((1977)
15 *PNAS* 74:5463). A variety of automated sequencing procedures can be utilized when performing the diagnostic assays ((1995) *Biotechniques* 19:448), including sequencing by mass spectrometry (see, e.g., PCT International Publication No. WO 94/16101; Cohen et al. (1996) *Adv. Chromatogr.* 36:127-162; and Griffin et al. (1993) *Appl. Biochem. Biotechnol.* 38:147-159).

20 Other methods for detecting mutations in the *flh2882* gene include methods in which protection from cleavage agents is used to detect mismatched bases in RNA/RNA or RNA/DNA duplexes (Myers et al. (1985) *Science* 230:1242); Cotton et al. (1988) *PNAS* 85:4397; Saleeba et al. (1992) *Meth. Enzymol.* 217:286-295), electrophoretic mobility of mutant and wild type nucleic acid is compared (Orita et al. (1989) *PNAS*
25 86:2766; Cotton (1993) *Mutat. Res.* 285:125-144; and Hayashi (1992) *Genet. Anal. Tech. Appl.* 9:73-79), and movement of mutant or wild-type fragments in polyacrylamide gels containing a gradient of denaturant is assayed using denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis (Myers et al (1985) *Nature* 313:495). Examples of other techniques for detecting point mutations include, selective oligonucleotide hybridization,
30 selective amplification, and selective primer extension.

c. Methods of Treatment

Another aspect of the invention pertains to methods for treating a subject, e.g., a human, having a disease or disorder characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or
35 abnormal *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity. These methods include the step of administering an *flh2882* protein/gene modulator (agonist or antagonist) to the subject such that treatment occurs. The language "aberrant or

abnormal *flh2882* protein expression" refers to expression of a non-wild-type *flh2882* protein or a non-wild-type level of expression of an *flh2882* protein. Aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* protein activity refers to a non-wild-type *flh2882* protein activity or a non-wild-type level of *flh2882* protein activity. As the *flh2882* protein is involved in a pathway involving signaling within cells, aberrant or abnormal *flh2882* protein activity or expression interferes with the normal regulation of functions mediated by *flh2882* protein signaling, and in particular brain cells.

The terms "treating" or "treatment", as used herein, refer to reduction or alleviation of at least one adverse effect or symptom of a disorder or disease, e.g., a disorder or disease characterized by or associated with abnormal or aberrant *flh2882* protein activity or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression.

As used herein, an *flh2882* protein/gene modulator is a molecule which can modulate *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity. For example, an *flh2882* gene or protein modulator can modulate, e.g., upregulate (activate/agonize) or downregulate (suppress/antagonize), *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. In another example, an *flh2882* protein/gene modulator can modulate (e.g., stimulate/agonize or inhibit/antagonize) *flh2882* protein activity. If it is desirable to treat a disorder or disease characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal (non-wild-type) *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity by inhibiting *flh2882* nucleic acid expression, an *flh2882* modulator can be an antisense molecule, e.g., a ribozyme, as described herein. Examples of antisense molecules which can be used to inhibit *flh2882* nucleic acid expression include antisense molecules which are complementary to a fragment of the 5' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1 which also includes the start codon and antisense molecules which are complementary to a fragment of the 3' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1. An example of an antisense molecule which is complementary to a fragment of the 5' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1 and which also includes the start codon is a nucleic acid molecule which includes nucleotides which are complementary to nucleotides 171 to 186 of SEQ ID NO:1. This antisense molecule has the following nucleotide sequence: 5' CGGGGCGCGCACCATG 3' (SEQ ID NO:11). An additional example of an antisense molecule which is complementary to a fragment of the 5' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1 and which also includes the start codon is a nucleic acid molecule which includes nucleotides which are complementary to nucleotides 180 to 196 of SEQ ID NO:1. This antisense molecule has the following nucleotide sequence: 5' CACCATGAACTCGTGGG 3' (SEQ ID NO:12). An example of an antisense molecule which is complementary to a fragment of the 3' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1 is a nucleic acid molecule which includes nucleotides which are complementary to

nucleotides 1195 to 1210 of SEQ ID NO:1. This antisense molecule has the following sequence: 5' TGAAGGACCGCGCTCC 3' (SEQ ID NO:13). An additional example of an antisense molecule which is complementary to a fragment of the 3' untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:1 is a nucleic acid molecule which includes nucleotides which are
5 complementary to nucleotides 1189 to 1204 of SEQ ID NO:1. This antisense molecule has the following sequence: 5' TCTGAGTGAAGGACCG 3' (SEQ ID NO:14).

An *flh2882* modulator that inhibits *flh2882* nucleic acid expression can also be a small molecule or other drug, e.g., a small molecule or drug identified using the screening assays described herein, which inhibits *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. If it
10 is desirable to treat a disease or disorder characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal (non-wild-type) *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity by stimulating *flh2882* nucleic acid expression, an *flh2882* modulator can be, for example, a nucleic acid molecule encoding an *flh2882* protein (e.g., a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence homologous to the nucleotide sequence of
15 SEQ ID NO:1) or a small molecule or other drug, e.g., a small molecule (peptide) or drug identified using the screening assays described herein, which stimulates *flh2882* nucleic acid expression.

Alternatively, if it is desirable to treat a disease or disorder characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal (non-wild-type) *flh2882* nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity by inhibiting *flh2882* protein activity, an *flh2882*
20 modulator can be an anti-*flh2882* antibody or a small molecule or other drug, e.g., a small molecule or drug identified using the screening assays described herein, which inhibits *flh2882* protein activity. If it is desirable to treat a disease or disorder characterized by (or associated with) aberrant or abnormal (non-wild-type) *flh2882*
25 nucleic acid expression and/or *flh2882* protein activity by stimulating *flh2882* protein activity, an *flh2882* modulator can be an active *flh2882* protein or fragment thereof (e.g., an *flh2882* protein or fragment thereof having an amino acid sequence which is homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof) or a small molecule or other drug, e.g., a small molecule or drug identified using the
30 screening assays described herein, which stimulates *flh2882* protein activity.

Other aspects of the invention pertain to methods for modulating an *flh2882* protein mediated cell activity. These methods include contacting the cell with an agent (or a composition which includes an effective amount of an agent) which modulates *flh2882* protein activity or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression such that an *flh2882* protein
35 mediated cell activity is altered relative to normal levels (for example, cAMP or phosphatidylinositol metabolism). As used herein, "an *flh2882* protein mediated cell activity" refers to a normal or abnormal activity or function of a cell. Examples of

flh2882 protein mediated cell activities include phosphatidylinositol turnover, production or secretion of molecules, such as proteins, contraction, proliferation, migration, differentiation, and cell survival. In a preferred embodiment, the cell is neural cell of the brain, e.g., a hippocampal cell. The term "altered" as used herein refers to a change, e.g., an increase or decrease, of a cell associated activity particularly cAMP or phosphatidylinositol turnover, and adenylate cyclase or phospholipase C activation. In one embodiment, the agent stimulates flh2882 protein activity or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. In another embodiment, the agent inhibits flh2882 protein activity or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression. These modulatory methods can be performed *in vitro* (e.g., by culturing the cell with the agent) or, alternatively, *in vivo* (e.g., by administering the agent to a subject). In a preferred embodiment, the modulatory methods are performed *in vivo*, i.e., the cell is present within a subject, e.g., a mammal, e.g., a human, and the subject has a disorder or disease characterized by or associated with abnormal or aberrant flh2882 protein activity or *flh2882* nucleic acid expression.

A nucleic acid molecule, a protein, an flh2882 modulator, a compound etc. used in the methods of treatment can be incorporated into an appropriate pharmaceutical composition described below and administered to the subject through a route which allows the molecule, protein, modulator, or compound etc. to perform its intended function.

20

d. Pharmacogenomics

Test/candidate compounds, or modulators which have a stimulatory or inhibitory effect on flh2882 protein activity (e.g., *flh2882* gene expression) as identified by a screening assay described herein can be administered to individuals to treat (prophylactically or therapeutically) disorders (e.g., CNS disorders) associated with aberrant flh2882 protein activity. In conjunction with such treatment, the pharmacogenomics (i.e., the study of the relationship between an individual's genotype and that individual's response to a foreign compound or drug) of the individual may be considered. Differences in metabolism of therapeutics can lead to severe toxicity or therapeutic failure by altering the relation between dose and blood concentration of the pharmacologically active drug. Thus, the pharmacogenomics of the individual permit the selection of effective compounds (e.g., drugs) for prophylactic or therapeutic treatments based on a consideration of the individual's genotype. Such pharmacogenomics can further be used to determine appropriate dosages and therapeutic regimens. Accordingly, the activity of flh2882 protein, expression of *flh2882* nucleic acid, or mutation content of *flh2882* genes in an individual can be determined to thereby

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select appropriate compound(s) for therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of the individual.

Pharmacogenomics deal with clinically significant hereditary variations in the response to drugs due to altered drug disposition and abnormal action in affected persons. See, e.g., Eichelbaum, M. (1996) *Clin. Exp. Pharmacol. Physiol.* 23(10-11):983-985 and Linder, M.W. (1997) *Clin. Chem.* 43(2):254-266. In general, two types of pharmacogenetic conditions can be differentiated. Genetic conditions transmitted as a single factor altering the way drugs act on the body (altered drug action) or genetic conditions transmitted as single factors altering the way the body acts on drugs (altered drug metabolism). These pharmacogenetic conditions can occur either as rare defects or as polymorphisms. For example, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD) is a common inherited enzymopathy in which the main clinical complication is haemolysis after ingestion of oxidant drugs (anti-malarials, sulfonamides, analgesics, nitrofurans) and consumption of fava beans.

As an illustrative embodiment, the activity of drug metabolizing enzymes is a major determinant of both the intensity and duration of drug action. The discovery of genetic polymorphisms of drug metabolizing enzymes (e.g., N-acetyltransferase 2 (NAT 2) and cytochrome P450 enzymes CYP2D6 and CYP2C19) has provided an explanation as to why some patients do not obtain the expected drug effects or show exaggerated drug response and serious toxicity after taking the standard and safe dose of a drug. These polymorphisms are expressed in two phenotypes in the population, the extensive metabolizer (EM) and poor metabolizer (PM). The prevalence of PM is different among different populations. For example, the gene coding for CYP2D6 is highly polymorphic and several mutations have been identified in PM, which all lead to the absence of functional CYP2D6. Poor metabolizers of CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 quite frequently experience exaggerated drug response and side effects when they receive standard doses. If a metabolite is the active therapeutic moiety, PM show no therapeutic response, as demonstrated for the analgesic effect of codeine mediated by its CYP2D6-formed metabolite morphine. The other extreme are the so called ultra-rapid metabolizers who do not respond to standard doses. Recently, the molecular basis of ultra-rapid metabolism has been identified to be due to CYP2D6 gene amplification.

Thus, the activity of *flh2882* protein, expression of *flh2882* nucleic acid, or mutation content of *flh2882* genes in an individual can be determined to thereby select appropriate agent(s) for therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of a subject. In addition, pharmacogenetic studies can be used to apply genotyping of polymorphic alleles encoding drug-metabolizing enzymes to the identification of a subject's drug responsiveness phenotype. This knowledge, when applied to dosing or drug selection,

can avoid adverse reactions or therapeutic failure and thus enhance therapeutic or prophylactic efficiency when treating a subject with an *flh2882* modulator, such as a modulator identified by one of the exemplary screening assays described herein.

5 e. **Monitoring of Effects During Clinical Trials**

Monitoring the influence of compounds (e.g., drugs) on the expression or activity of *flh2882* protein/gene can be applied not only in basic drug screening, but also in clinical trials. For example, the effectiveness of an agent determined by a screening assay, as described herein, to increase *flh2882* gene expression, protein levels, or up-regulate *flh2882* activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting
10 decreased *flh2882* gene expression, protein levels, or down-regulated *flh2882* protein activity. Alternatively, the effectiveness of an agent, determined by a screening assay, to decrease *flh2882* gene expression, protein levels, or down-regulate *flh2882* protein activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting increased *flh2882* gene
15 expression, protein levels, or up-regulated *flh2882* protein activity. In such clinical trials, the expression or activity of an *flh2882* protein and, preferably, other genes which have been implicated in, for example, a nervous system related disorder can be used as a "read out" or markers of the ligand responsiveness of a particular cell.

For example, and not by way of limitation, genes, including an *flh2882* gene,
20 which are modulated in cells by treatment with a compound (e.g., drug or small molecule) which modulates *flh2882* protein/gene activity (e.g., identified in a screening assay as described herein) can be identified. Thus, to study the effect of compounds on CNS disorders, for example, in a clinical trial, cells can be isolated and RNA prepared and analyzed for the levels of expression of an *flh2882* gene and other genes implicated
25 in the disorder. The levels of gene expression (i.e., a gene expression pattern) can be quantified by Northern blot analysis or RT-PCR, as described herein, or alternatively by measuring the amount of protein produced, by one of the methods described herein, or by measuring the levels of activity of an *flh2882* protein or other genes. In this way, the gene expression pattern can serve as a marker, indicative of the physiological response
30 of the cells to the compound. Accordingly, this response state may be determined before, and at various points during, treatment of the individual with the compound.

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a method for monitoring the effectiveness of treatment of a subject with a compound (e.g., an agonist, antagonist, peptidomimetic, protein, peptide, nucleic acid, small molecule, or other drug
35 candidate identified by the screening assays described herein) comprising the steps of (i) obtaining a pre-administration sample from a subject prior to administration of the compound; (ii) detecting the level of expression of an *flh2882* protein, mRNA, or

- genomic DNA in the preadministration sample; (iii) obtaining one or more post-administration samples from the subject; (iv) detecting the level of expression or activity of the flh2882 protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the post-administration samples; (v) comparing the level of expression or activity of the flh2882 protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the pre-administration sample with the flh2882 protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the post administration sample or samples; and (vi) altering the administration of the compound to the subject accordingly. For example, increased administration of the compound may be desirable to increase the expression or activity of an flh2882 protein/gene to higher levels than detected, i.e., to increase the effectiveness of the agent.
- 10 Alternatively, decreased administration of the agent may be desirable to decrease expression or activity of flh2882 to lower levels than detected, i.e. to decrease the effectiveness of the compound.

VI. Pharmaceutical Compositions

- 15 The *flh2882* nucleic acid molecules, flh2882 proteins (particularly fragments of flh2882), modulators of an flh2882 proein, and anti-flh2882 antibodies (also referred to herein as "active compounds") of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration to a subject, e.g., a human. Such compositions typically comprise the nucleic acid molecule, protein, modulator, or antibody and a
- 20 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used herein the language "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is intended to include any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well known in the art. Except insofar as
- 25 any conventional media or agent is incompatible with the active compound, such media can be used in the compositions of the invention. Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions.

- A pharmaceutical composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration. Examples of routes of administration include
- 30 parenteral, e.g., intravenous, intradermal, subcutaneous, oral (e.g., inhalation), transdermal (topical), transmucosal, and rectal administration. Solutions or suspensions used for parenteral, intradermal, or subcutaneous application can include the following components: a sterile diluent such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oils, polyethylene glycols, glycerine, propylene glycol or other synthetic solvents;
- 35 antibacterial agents such as benzyl alcohol or methyl parabens; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid or sodium bisulfite; chelating agents such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid; buffers such as acetates, citrates or phosphates and agents for the adjustment of

tonicity such as sodium chloride or dextrose. pH can be adjusted with acids or bases, such as hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide. The parenteral preparation can be enclosed in ampoules, disposable syringes or multiple dose vials made of glass or plastic.

- 5 Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for injectable use include sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or dispersions and sterile powders for the extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersion. For intravenous administration, suitable carriers include physiological saline, bacteriostatic water, Cremophor EL™ (BASF, Parsippany, NJ) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS). In
- 10 all cases, the composition must be sterile and should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. It must be stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage and must be preserved against the contaminating action of microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi. The carrier can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (for example, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid
- 15 polyethylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be achieved by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol,
- 20 ascorbic acid, thimerosal, and the like. In many cases, it will be preferable to include isotonic agents, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as manitol, sorbitol, sodium chloride in the composition. Prolonged absorption of the injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent which delays absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.
- 25 Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound (e.g., an flh2882 protein or anti-flh2882 antibody) in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle which contains a basic
- 30 dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying which yields a powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution thereof.
- 35 Oral compositions generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier. They can be enclosed in gelatin capsules or compressed into tablets. For the purpose of oral therapeutic administration, the active compound can be incorporated with excipients and

used in the form of tablets, troches, or capsules. Oral compositions can also be prepared using a fluid carrier for use as a mouthwash, wherein the compound in the fluid carrier is applied orally and swished and expectorated or swallowed. Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents, and/or adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition. The tablets, pills, capsules, troches and the like can contain any of the following ingredients, or compounds of a similar nature: a binder such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth or gelatin; an excipient such as starch or lactose, a disintegrating agent such as alginic acid, Primogel, or corn starch; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate or Sterotes; a glidant such as colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; or a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, or orange flavoring.

For administration by inhalation, the compounds are delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from pressured container or dispenser which contains a suitable propellant, e.g., a gas such as carbon dioxide, or a nebulizer.

Systemic administration can also be by transmucosal or transdermal means. For transmucosal or transdermal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art, and include, for example, for transmucosal administration, detergents, bile salts, and fusidic acid derivatives. Transmucosal administration can be accomplished through the use of nasal sprays or suppositories. For transdermal administration, the active compounds are formulated into ointments, salves, gels, or creams as generally known in the art.

The compounds can also be prepared in the form of suppositories (e.g., with conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter and other glycerides) or retention enemas for rectal delivery.

In one embodiment, the active compounds are prepared with carriers that will protect the compound against rapid elimination from the body, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants and microencapsulated delivery systems. Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Methods for preparation of such formulations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The materials can also be obtained commercially from Alza Corporation and Nova Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Liposomal suspensions (including liposomes targeted to infected cells with monoclonal antibodies to viral antigens) can also be used as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art, for example, as described in U.S. Patent No. 4,522,811.

It is especially advantageous to formulate oral or parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used herein refers to physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the subject to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active compound

5 calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The specification for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic effect to be achieved, and the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of individuals.

10 The nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be inserted into vectors and used as gene therapy vectors. Gene therapy vectors can be delivered to a subject by, for example, intravenous injection, local administration (see U.S. Patent 5,328,470) or by stereotactic injection (see e.g., Chen et al. (1994) *PNAS* 91:3054-3057). The pharmaceutical preparation of the gene therapy vector can include the gene therapy

15 vector in an acceptable diluent, or can comprise a slow release matrix in which the gene delivery vehicle is imbedded. Alternatively, where the complete gene delivery vector can be produced intact from recombinant cells, e.g. retroviral vectors, the pharmaceutical preparation can include one or more cells which produce the gene delivery system.

20 The pharmaceutical compositions can be included in a container, pack, or dispenser together with instructions for administration.

VII. Uses of Partial *flh2882* Sequences

Fragments or fragments of the cDNA sequences identified herein (and the

25 corresponding complete gene sequences) can be used in numerous ways as polynucleotide reagents. For example, these sequences can be used to: (a) map their respective genes on a chromosome; and, thus, locate gene regions associated with genetic disease; (b) identify an individual from a minute biological sample (tissue typing); and (c) aid in forensic identification of a biological sample. These applications

30 are described in the subsections below.

a. Chromosome Mapping

Once the sequence (or a fragment of the sequence) of a gene has been isolated, this sequence can be used to map the location of the gene on a chromosome. This

35 process is called chromosome mapping. Accordingly, fragments of an *flh2882* nucleic acid sequences can be used to map the location of the *flh2882* gene, respectively, on a

chromosome. The mapping of the *flh2882* sequence to chromosomes is an important first step in correlating these sequence with genes associated with disease.

Briefly, the *flh2882* gene can be mapped to a chromosome by preparing PCR primers (preferably 15-25 bp in length) from the *flh2882* gene sequence. Computer
5 analysis of the *flh2882* gene sequence can be used to rapidly select primers that do not span more than one exon in the genomic DNA, thus complicating the amplification process. These primers can then be used for PCR screening of somatic cell hybrids containing individual human chromosomes. Only those hybrids containing the human gene corresponding to the *flh2882* gene sequence will yield an amplified fragment.

10 Somatic cell hybrids are prepared by fusing somatic cells from different mammals (e.g., human and mouse cells). As hybrids of human and mouse cells grow and divide, they gradually lose human chromosomes in random order, but retain the mouse chromosomes. By using media in which mouse cells cannot grow, because they lack a particular enzyme, but human cells can, the one human chromosome that contains
15 the gene encoding the needed enzyme, will be retained. By using various media, panels of hybrid cell lines can be established. Each cell line in a panel contains either a single human chromosome or a small number of human chromosomes, and a full set of mouse chromosomes, allowing easy mapping of individual genes to specific human chromosomes. (D'Eustachio P. et al. (1983) *Science* 220:919-924). Somatic cell hybrids
20 containing only fragments of human chromosomes can also be produced by using human chromosomes with translocations and deletions.

PCR mapping of somatic cell hybrids is a rapid procedure for assigning a particular sequence to a particular chromosome. Three or more sequences can be assigned per day using a single thermal cycler. Using the *flh2882* gene sequence to
25 design oligonucleotide primers, sublocalization can be achieved with panels of fragments from specific chromosomes. Other mapping strategies which can similarly be used to map an *flh2882* gene sequence to its chromosome include *in situ* hybridization (described in Fan, Y. et al. (1990) *PNAS*, 87:6223-27), pre-screening with labeled flow-sorted chromosomes, and pre-selection by hybridization to chromosome specific cDNA
30 libraries.

Fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH) of a DNA sequence to a metaphase chromosomal spread can further be used to provide a precise chromosomal location in one step. Chromosome spreads can be made using cells whose division has been blocked in metaphase by a chemical like colcemid that disrupts the mitotic spindle. The
35 chromosomes can be treated briefly with trypsin, and then stained with Giemsa. A pattern of light and dark bands develops on each chromosome, so that the chromosomes can be identified individually. The FISH technique can be used with a DNA sequence

as short as 500 or 600 bases. However, clones larger than 1,000 bases have a higher likelihood of binding to a unique chromosomal location with sufficient signal intensity for simple detection. Preferably 1,000 bases, and more preferably 2,000 bases will suffice to get good results at a reasonable amount of time. For a review of this technique, see Verma et al., Human Chromosomes: A Manual of Basic Techniques (Pergamon Press, New York, 1988).

Reagents for chromosome mapping can be used individually to mark a single chromosome or a single site on that chromosome, or panels of reagents can be used for marking multiple sites and/or multiple chromosomes. Reagents corresponding to noncoding regions of the genes actually are preferred for mapping purposes. Coding sequences are more likely to be conserved within gene families, thus increasing the chance of cross hybridizations during chromosomal mapping.

Once a sequence has been mapped to a precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data (such data are found, for example, in V. McKusick, Mendelian Inheritance in Man, available on-line through Johns Hopkins University Welch Medical Library). The relationship between genes and disease, mapped to the same chromosomal region, can then be identified through linkage analysis (co-inheritance of physically adjacent genes), described in, for example, Egeland, J. et al. (1987) *Nature*, 325:783-787.

Moreover, differences in the DNA sequences between individuals affected and unaffected with a disease associated with the *flh2882* gene, can be determined. If a mutation is observed in some or all of the affected individuals but not in any unaffected individuals, then the mutation is likely to be the causative agent of the particular disease. Comparison of affected and unaffected individuals generally involves first looking for structural alterations in the chromosomes, such as deletions or translocations that are visible from chromosome spreads or detectable using PCR based on that DNA sequence. Ultimately, complete sequencing of genes from several individuals can be performed to confirm the presence of a mutation and to distinguish mutations from polymorphisms.

30 **b. Tissue Typing**

The *flh2882* gene sequences of the present invention can also be used to identify individuals from minute biological samples. The United States military, for example, is considering the use of restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) for identification of its personnel. In this technique, an individual's genomic DNA is digested with one or more restriction enzymes, and probed on a Southern blot to yield unique bands for identification. This method does not suffer from the current limitations of "Dog Tags" which can be lost, switched, or stolen, making positive identification

difficult. The sequences of the present invention are useful as additional DNA markers for RFLP (described in U.S. Patent 5,272,057).

Furthermore, the sequences of the present invention can be used to provide an alternative technique which determines the actual base-by-base DNA sequence of
5 selected fragments of an individual's genome. Thus, the *flh2882* sequences described herein can be used to prepare two PCR primers from the 5' and 3' ends of the sequences. These primers can then be used to amplify an individual's DNA and subsequently sequence it.

Panels of corresponding DNA sequences from individuals prepared in this
10 manner can provide unique individual identifications, as each individual will have a unique set of such DNA sequences due to allelic differences. The sequences of the present invention can be used to obtain such identification sequences from individuals and from tissue. The *flh2882* gene sequences of the invention uniquely represent fragments of the human genome. Allelic variation occurs to some degree in the coding
15 regions of these sequences, and to a greater degree in the noncoding regions. It is estimated that allelic variation between individual humans occurs with a frequency of about once per each 500 bases. Each of the sequences described herein can, to some degree, be used as a standard against which DNA from an individual can be compared for identification purposes. Because greater numbers of polymorphisms occur in the
20 noncoding regions, fewer sequences are necessary to differentiate individuals. The noncoding sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, can comfortably provide positive individual identification with a panel of perhaps 10 to 1,000 primers which each yield a noncoding amplified sequence of 100 bases. If a predicted coding sequence, such as that in SEQ ID NO:3, is used, a more appropriate number of primers for positive individual
25 identification would be 500-2,000.

If a panel of reagents from the *flh2882* gene sequences described herein is used to generate a unique identification database for an individual, those same reagents can later be used to identify tissue from that individual. Using the unique identification database, positive identification of the individual, living or dead, can be made from
30 extremely small tissue samples.

c. Use of Partial *flh2882* Gene Sequences in Forensic Biology

DNA-based identification techniques can also be used in forensic biology. Forensic biology is a scientific field employing genetic typing of biological evidence
35 found at a crime scene as a means for positively identifying, for example, a perpetrator of a crime. To make such an identification, PCR technology can be used to amplify DNA sequences taken from very small biological samples such as tissues, e.g., hair or

skin, or body fluids, e.g., blood, saliva, or semen found at a crime scene. The amplified sequence can then be compared to a standard, thereby allowing identification of the origin of the biological sample.

The sequences of the present invention can be used to provide polynucleotide reagents, e.g., PCR primers, targeted to specific loci in the human genome, which can enhance the reliability of DNA-based forensic identifications by, for example, providing another "identification marker" (i.e. another DNA sequence that is unique to a particular individual). As described above, actual base sequence information can be used for identification as an accurate alternative to patterns formed by restriction enzyme generated fragments. Sequences targeted to the noncoding region of SEQ ID NO:1 are particularly appropriate for this use as greater numbers of polymorphisms occur in the noncoding regions, making it easier to differentiate individuals using this technique. Examples of polynucleotide reagents include the flh2882 sequences or fragments thereof, e.g., fragments derived from the noncoding region of SEQ ID NO:1, having a length of at least 20 bases, preferably at least 30 bases.

The flh2882 sequences described herein can further be used to provide polynucleotide reagents, e.g., labeled or labelable probes which can be used in, for example, an *in situ* hybridization technique, to identify a specific tissue, e.g., brain tissue. This can be very useful in cases where a forensic pathologist is presented with a tissue of unknown origin. Panels of such flh2882 probes can be used to identify tissue by species and/or by organ type.

In a similar fashion, these reagents, e.g., flh2882 primers or probes can be used to screen tissue culture for contamination (i.e., screen for the presence of a mixture of different types of cells in a culture).

This invention is further illustrated by the following examples which should not be construed as limiting. The contents of all references, patent applications, patents, and published patent applications cited throughout this application are hereby incorporated by reference.

EXAMPLES

EXAMPLE 1: IDENTIFICATION OF HUMAN flh2882 cDNA

In this example, the human flh2882 nucleic acid molecule was identified by screening appropriate cDNA libraries. A non-annotated EST was first identified and used to screen a human fetal cDNA library. Several positive clones were identified, sequenced, and the sequences were assembled. BLAST analysis of nucleic acid databases in the public domain showed homologies only to the 3' untranslated region of

the flh2882 nucleic acid molecule and the original EST (GenBank™ Accession number T09060).

EXAMPLE 2: TISSUE EXPRESSION OF THE flh2882 GENE

5 Northern Analysis Using RNA from Human Tissue

Human brain multiple tissue northern (MTN) blots, human MTN I, II, and III blots (Clontech, Palo Alto, CA), containing 2 µg of poly A+ RNA per lane were probed with human flh2882-specific primers (probes). The filters were prehybridized in 10 ml of Express Hyb hybridization solution (Clontech, Palo Alto, CA) at 68°C for 1 hour, after which 100 ng of ³²P labeled probe was added. The probe was generated using the Stratagene Prime-It kit, Catalog Number 300392 (Clontech, Palo Alto, CA). Hybridization was allowed to proceed at 68°C for approximately 2 hours. The filters were washed in a 0.05% SDS/2X SSC solution for 15 minutes at room temperature and then twice with a 0.1% SDS/0.1X SSC solution for 20 minutes at 50°C and then exposed to autoradiography film overnight at -80°C with one screen. The human tissues tested included: heart, brain (regions of the brain tested included cerebellum, cerebral cortex, medulla, spinal cord, occipital pole, frontal lobe, temporal lobe, putamen, amygdala, caudate nucleus, hippocampus, corpus callosum, substantia nigra, subthalamic nucleus and thalamus), placenta, lung, liver, skeletal muscle, kidney, pancreas, spleen, thymus, prostate, testis, uterus, small intestine, colon (mucosal lining), and peripheral blood leukocyte.

There was a strong hybridization to human whole brain, and the substantia nigra indicating that the approximately 2.6 kb flh2882 gene transcript is expressed in these tissues.

25 EXAMPLE 3: EXPRESSION OF RECOMBINANT flh2882 PROTEIN IN BACTERIAL CELLS

In this example, flh2882 is expressed as a recombinant glutathione-S-transferase (GST) fusion protein in *E. coli* and the fusion protein is isolated and characterized. Specifically, flh2882 is fused to GST and this fusion protein is expressed in *E. coli*, e.g., strain PEB199. As the human protein is predicted to be approximately 38.7 kDa, and GST is predicted to be 26 kDa, the fusion protein is predicted to be approximately 64.7 kDa, in molecular weight. Expression of the GST-flh2882 fusion protein in PEB199 is induced with IPTG. The recombinant fusion protein is purified from crude bacterial lysates of the induced PEB199 strain by affinity chromatography on glutathione beads. Using polyacrylamide gel electrophoretic analysis of the protein purified from the bacterial lysates, the molecular weight of the resultant fusion protein is determined.

EXAMPLE 4: EXPRESSION OF RECOMBINANT flh2882 PROTEIN IN COS CELLS

To express the flh2882 gene in COS cells, the pcDNA/Amp vector by Invitrogen Corporation (San Diego, CA) is used. This vector contains an SV40 origin of replication, an ampicillin resistance gene, an *E. coli* replication origin, a CMV promoter followed by a polylinker region, and an SV40 intron and polyadenylation site. A DNA fragment encoding the entire flh2882 protein and a HA tag (Wilson et al. (1984) *Cell* 37:767) fused in-frame to its 3' end of the fragment is cloned into the polylinker region of the vector, thereby placing the expression of the recombinant protein under the control of the CMV promoter.

To construct the plasmid, the *flh2882* DNA sequence is amplified by PCR using two primers. The 5' primer contains the restriction site of interest followed by approximately twenty nucleotides of the *flh2882* coding sequence starting from the initiation codon; the 3' end sequence contains complementary sequences to the other restriction site of interest, a translation stop codon, the HA tag and the last 20 nucleotides of the *flh2882* coding sequence. The PCR amplified fragment and the pCDNA/Amp vector are digested with the appropriate restriction enzymes and the vector is dephosphorylated using the CIAP enzyme (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA). Preferably the two restriction sites chosen are different so that the *flh2882* gene is inserted in the correct orientation. The ligation mixture is transformed into *E. coli* cells (strains HB101, DH5a, SURE, available from Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, CA, can be used), the transformed culture is plated on ampicillin media plates, and resistant colonies are selected. Plasmid DNA is isolated from transformants and examined by restriction analysis for the presence of the correct fragment.

COS cells are subsequently transfected with the *flh2882*-pcDNA/Amp plasmid DNA using the calcium phosphate or calcium chloride co-precipitation methods, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection, lipofection, or electroporation. Other suitable methods for transfecting host cells can be found in Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F., and Maniatis, T. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989. The expression of the flh2882 protein is detected by radiolabelling (³⁵S-methionine or ³⁵S-cysteine available from NEN, Boston, MA, can be used) and immunoprecipitation (Harlow, E. and Lane, D. *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1988) using an HA specific monoclonal antibody. Briefly, the cells are labelled for 8 hours with ³⁵S-methionine (or ³⁵S-cysteine). The culture media are then collected and the cells are lysed using detergents (RIPA buffer, 150 mM NaCl,

1% NP-40, 0.1% SDS, 0.5% DOC, 50 mM Tris, pH 7.5). Both the cell lysate and the culture media are precipitated with an HA specific monoclonal antibody. Precipitated proteins are then analyzed by SDS-PAGE.

- 5 Alternatively, DNA containing the *flh2882* coding sequence is cloned directly into the polylinker of the pCDNA/Amp vector using the appropriate restriction sites. The resulting plasmid is transfected into COS cells in the manner described above, and the expression of the *flh2882* protein is detected by radiolabelling and immunoprecipitation using an *flh2882* specific monoclonal antibody

10 **EXAMPLE 5: CHARACTERIZATION OF THE HUMAN *flh2882* PROTEIN**

In this example, the amino acid sequence of the human *flh2882* protein was compared to amino acid sequences of known proteins and various motifs were identified.

- 15 The human *flh2882* protein, the amino acid sequence of which is shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:2), is a novel protein which includes 337 amino acid residues. Hydrophobicity analysis indicated that the human *flh2882* protein contains seven transmembrane domains between amino acid residues 11-28 (SEQ ID NO:4), 43-62 (SEQ ID NO:5), 80-102 (SEQ ID NO:6), 121-146 (SEQ ID NO:7), 169-190 (SEQ ID NO:8), 247-265 (SEQ ID NO:9), and 280-300 (SEQ ID NO:10). The nucleotide
20 sequence of the human *flh2882* was used as a database query using the BLASTN program (BLASTN1.3MP, Altschul et al. (1990) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403). The closest hit was to the mouse 5HT5_B receptor (GenBank™ Accession Number P31387). The highest similarity is 24/77 amino acid identities.

25 **Equivalents**

Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. Such equivalents are intended to be encompassed by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino
5 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a protein
comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises
at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic
10 variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the
nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1
under stringent conditions.
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid
15 sequences.
3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid sequences
encoding a heterologous protein.
- 20 4. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
5. The host cell of claim 4 which is a mammalian host cell.
6. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule
25 of claim 1.

7. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:
- a) the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4;
 - c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5;
 - d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6;
 - e) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7;
 - f) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8;
 - g) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:9; and
 - h) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.
8. An isolated protein selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions.
9. The protein of claim 8 further comprising heterologous amino acid sequences.
10. An antibody which selectively binds to a protein of claim 8.

11. A method for producing a protein selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - 5 c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions;
- 10 the method comprising the step of culturing the host cell of claim 4 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.
12. A method for detecting the presence of a protein selected from the group consisting of:
- 15 a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - 20 c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions;
- in a sample, the method comprising the steps of:
- 25 i) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to the protein; and
 - ii) determining whether the compound binds to the protein in the sample.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the compound which binds to the protein is an antibody.

14. A kit comprising reagents used for the method of claim 12, wherein the reagents comprise a compound which selectively binds to a protein selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - 5 b) a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid
 - 10 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions.
15. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
- 15 a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - 20 c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions;
- in a sample, the method comprising the steps of:
- 25 i) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and
 - ii) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid molecule in the sample.
- 30 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.

17. A kit comprising reagents used for the method of claim 15, wherein the reagents comprise a compound which selectively hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions.
18. A method for identifying a compound which binds to a protein selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - b) a fragment of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions,
- the method comprising the steps of:
- i) contacting the protein, or a cell expressing the protein with a test compound; and
 - ii) determining whether the protein binds to the test compound.
19. The method of claim 18, wherein the binding of the test compound to the protein is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:
- a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/protein binding;
 - b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay;
 - c) detection of binding using an assay for flh2882 activity.

20. A method for modulating the activity of a protein selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - b) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions,
- the method comprising the steps of:
- i) contacting a cell expressing the protein with a compound which binds to the protein in a sufficient concentration to modulate the activity of the protein.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein the activity is a phosphatidylinositol activity.
22. The method of claim 20, wherein the method results in an increase in phosphatidylinositol metabolism.
23. The method of claim 20, wherein the method results in a decrease in phosphatidylinositol metabolism.
24. The method of claim 20, wherein the activity is a cAMP activity.
25. The method of claim 20, wherein the method results in an increase in cAMP metabolism.
26. The method of claim 20, wherein the method results in a decrease in cAMP metabolism.

[illegible]

FIG. 1B

TGCACAGCGCTCCATCCACTCCTCTGGCCTCACAGGCGACTCTCACAGCCAGAACATTCTGCC
GGTGTCTGAGTGAAGG
ACCGGCTCCTGCTGAAGAGTTTAGAATGAGGCAGCGGTGAGAAAGAGGTGGGAGGGCGTG
GGGGCCCTGGGTGGACA
CCACCAGCCACCAGTCCCTGGCATGCCCAGATGATCCTGGTTCCTTGGCTGTAGGGGGCTCCA
GAGCCTGCTTCTGGTT
CCTCAAGGCGAGATATTGGACACTTCTTATTGTACACAAAGGAATGACTGTAGGCCCGTGTG
TTGGCCCTTCTTTCTAA
GAAGCTGCTTTGAGCTCCTGGACTCACCTGAGGCTCCCTGGGGGATGACACTCAGTTCTGTCA
CTGTCAAGGATGCAGAG
AGCTGGTGGTAGGTGGGAAGCATGGTGTCCACCTGCCCTGCTGACCACTGGACGCTGCTCCATG
CTGAAGAAAGTGACAG
TCTCCAGGGGACATTTTCAGCCATGCTGAAAGGGAGGCTGGCAGTGGTCAATTGGCCCGGATCTA
ACATGGCACCTCGTCTC
CACAGGTAAGTGGTGGCTGCTTCAACCCAAATATTATTCAGCTGGTACTAACGACATTGTGCC
CAGCTGGGACTCTTGGG
CTCTGTGCCTGAGGGAAATGTTTCACAACTAGTGGCTGCCCAATTGCTGCTGACCAAGTTGTCT
TAGAAATGGTCAATTG
GATTCAACTTTAGTCCCTCTCTCCCTTCCCTTAAAGCGAAATGTTTGTGTGTGCAGACAAATCTTAAC
ATGAAAATGGTTTAA
TAGGCTGGTCCCTACATGTATTAGGTCTTTTCAAGTTTGACTGGGAGGTCACTTTTCTGATTT
ACAACTCCTAATTGTT
GGAGCTCAGTAAAGGTAGGAGGAAGGTGGCTGGTGGTCTCCCTTCCCTTCTGTTGTGACCT
GAATTTACAGGAAGTGT
TTCAACTTGTCTTATGCATCTTATCTGGCATGTCTCTGGGAGATGGATGGGCAAGAACTGGCCT
GAGCAGGGATTTTGGC

FIG. 1C

TTGATTTTAAGTCACTGGGTTCCATTGTCTCTGGCACCTCCAATTCCTTAGTTTCTGTAAAGCCTGT
TAACAGAAAGTAGAG
GCTATTCAAGGTTATCAAGAAAGTGCCCTGTGCTAATGATGAGACAGTGAAATTTTTTTTTTTT
CAGATGGGAGTTTCAC
TCTTATTGCCCAGGCTAGAGTGCAATGGTGCGATCTAGGCTCACCGCAACCTCTGCGCTTCCAGG
TTCAAGTGATTAGAGA
CAGTGAAATTTTATGGAATACTGCACCTATAAAACACATGCCAAATCTGTTAGCAGTCCCTGACT
TGATTTAATAAAACC
AAGGAGAGCCAAAAA
AAGCTTACGTACGCGTGCA
TCCGACGTCATAGCTCTTGGATCC

FIG. 2

ATGAACTCGTGGGACGCGGGCCTGGCGGGCTACTGTGGGCACGATGGGCGTCTCGTGCTGTCCAAACGCGCTGGTGCT
GCTCTGCCTGCTGCACAGCGGGACATCCGCCGCCAGGCGCCGGCGCTCTTACCCCTGAACCTCACGTGCGGGAAACCTGC
TGTGCACCGTGGTCAACATGCCGCTCACGCTGGCCGCGCTCGTGGCGCGGCGAGCCGGCGGGCGACCCGCCCTGTGCCGC
CTGGCTGCCCTTCCTCGACACCTTCCTGGTGCCAACTCCATGCTCAGCATGGCCCGCGCTCAGCATCGACCGCTGGGTGGC
CGTGGTCTTCCCGCTAGCTACCGGGCCAAAGATGGGCTCCGGGACGGCGGCTCATGGTGGCTTACACGTGGCTGCACG
CGCTACCTTCCCAGCCCGCGCTCGCCCTGTCTCTGGCTCGGCTTCCACCAGCTGTACGCCCTCGTGCACGCTGTGCAGC
CGGCGCGGACGAGCGCCTGCGCTTCGCCGTCTTCACTGGCGCCCTTCCACGCTCTCAGCTTCCTGCTCTCCTTCGTCTGT
GCTCTGCTGCACGTACCTCAAGGTGCTCAAGGTGGCCCGCTTCCATTGCAAGCGCATCGACGTGATCACCATGCAGACGC
TCGTGCTGCTCGTGGACCTGCACCCCAAGTGTGGGGAACGCTGTCTGGAGGAGCAGAAGCGGAGCGGAGCGAGCCACC
AAGAAATCAGCACCTTCTATAGGGACCTTCCTTGTGTGCTTCGCGCCCTATGTGATCACCAAGGCTAGTGGAGCTCTTCTC
CAGGTGCCCCATCGGCTCCACTGGGGGGTGTGTCCAAAGTGTCTGGCGTACAGCAAGGCCGCTATCCGACCCCTTTGTGT
ACTCCTTACTGCGACACCAAGTACCGCAAAAGCTGCAAGGAGATTCTGAACAGGCTCCTGCACAGACGCTCCATCCACTCC
TCTGGCCTCACAGGGACTCTCACAGCCAGAACATTCTGCCGGTGTCTGAGTGA

FIG. 3

MNSWDAGLAGLLVGTMGVSLLSNALVLLCLLHSADIRQAPALFTLNLTGNNLLCTVVMPLTLAGVVARQPAGDRLCR
LAAFIDTFLAANSMLMAALSIDRWAVVFPPLSYRAKMRDRDAALMVAYTWLHALTFPAAALALSWLGFHQLYASCTLCS
RRPDERLRFAVFTGAFHALSFLLSFVVLCCYYLKVLFKVARFHCKRIDVITMQTLVLLVDLHPSVRERCLEEQRRRQRAT
KKISTFTIGTFLVCFAPYVITRLVELFSTVPIGSHWGVLSKCLAYSKAASDPFYSLLRHQYRKSCKEILNRLHLHRRSIHS
SGLTGDSHSQNILPVSE

- 1 -

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

5 (i) APPLICANT:
 (A) NAME: MILLENNIUM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. et al.
 (B) STREET: 640 MEMORIAL DRIVE
 (C) CITY: CAMBRIDGE
 (D) STATE: MASSACHUSETTS
10 (E) COUNTRY: US
 (F) POSTAL CODE (ZIP): 02142
 (G) TELEPHONE:
 (H) TELEFAX:
15 (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: LIGAND RECEPTORS AND USES THEREFOR
 (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 14
 (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 (A) ADDRESSEE: LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
20 (B) STREET: 28 STATE STREET
 (C) CITY: BOSTON
 (D) STATE: MASSACHUSETTS
 (E) COUNTRY: US
25 (F) ZIP: 02109
 (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
30 (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
 (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT/US99/
 (B) FILING DATE: 20 JANUARY 1999
35 (C) CLASSIFICATION:
 (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: 09/013,634
 (B) FILING DATE: 26 JANUARY 1998
40 (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 (A) NAME: Attorney, MANDRAGOURAS, AMY E.
 (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 36,207
 (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: MNI-036PC
45 (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 (A) TELEPHONE: (617)227-7400
 (B) TELEFAX: (617)742-4214

- 2 -

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 5 (A) LENGTH: 2581 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

10

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: 184..1194

15

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

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CGACCCACGC GTCCGCGGGA GGCCGCCTGA GGCTCCGGGG TGGCCGCGCG CCCTCCTGGG      60
AGCCATGGCG GCTGGGGCCG GGGGTCGCCG GCGGCGGCG GCGCCGAGGG GCTGAGCCGG      120
20 CCGCGGGCAG CGCCATGGCG GCGCCGGGTT GCGGACCCTG AGCGCCGGCG CGGGGCGCGC      180
ACC ATG AAC TCG TGG GAC GCG GGC CTG GCG GGG CTA CTG GTG GGC ACG      228
  Met Asn Ser Trp Asp Ala Gly Leu Ala Gly Leu Leu Val Gly Thr
25   1           5           10           15
ATG GGC GTC TCG CTG CTG TCC AAC GCG CTG GTG CTG CTC TGC CTG CTG      276
  Met Gly Val Ser Leu Leu Ser Asn Ala Leu Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Leu
                20                25                30
30 CAC AGC GCG GAC ATC CGC CGC CAG GCG CCG GCG CTC TTC ACC CTG AAC      324
  His Ser Ala Asp Ile Arg Arg Gln Ala Pro Ala Leu Phe Thr Leu Asn
                35                40                45
35 CTC ACG TGC GGG AAC CTG CTG TGC ACC GTG GTC AAC ATG CCG CTC ACG      372
  Leu Thr Cys Gly Asn Leu Leu Cys Thr Val Val Asn Met Pro Leu Thr
                50                55                60
40 CTG GCC GGC GTC GTG GCG CGG CGG CAG CCG GCG GGC GAC CGC CTG TGC      420
  Leu Ala Gly Val Val Ala Arg Arg Gln Pro Ala Gly Asp Arg Leu Cys
                65                70                75
CGC CTG GCT GCC TTC CTC GAC ACC TTC CTG GCT GCC AAC TCC ATG CTC      468
  Arg Leu Ala Ala Phe Leu Asp Thr Phe Leu Ala Ala Asn Ser Met Leu
45   80           85           90           95
AGC ATG GCC GCG CTC AGC ATC GAC CGC TGG GTG GCC GTG GTC TTC CCG      516
  Ser Met Ala Ala Leu Ser Ile Asp Arg Trp Val Ala Val Val Phe Pro
                100                105                110
50 CTG AGC TAC CGG GCC AAG ATG CGC CTC CGC GAC GCG GCG CTC ATG GTG      564
  Leu Ser Tyr Arg Ala Lys Met Arg Leu Arg Asp Ala Ala Leu Met Val
                115                120                125

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- 3 -

	GCC TAC ACG TGG CTG CAC GCG CTC ACC TTC CCA GCC GCC GCG CTC GCC	612
	Ala Tyr Thr Trp Leu His Ala Leu Thr Phe Pro Ala Ala Ala Leu Ala	
	130 135 140	
5	CTG TCC TGG CTC GGC TTC CAC CAG CTG TAC GCC TCG TGC ACG CTG TGC	660
	Leu Ser Trp Leu Gly Phe His Gln Leu Tyr Ala Ser Cys Thr Leu Cys	
	145 150 155	
10	AGC CGG CGG CCG GAC GAG CGC CTG CGC TTC GCC GTC TTC ACT GGC GCC	708
	Ser Arg Arg Pro Asp Glu Arg Leu Arg Phe Ala Val Phe Thr Gly Ala	
	160 165 170 175	
15	TTC CAC GCT CTC AGC TTC CTG CTC TCC TTC GTC GTG CTC TGC TGC ACG	756
	Phe His Ala Leu Ser Phe Leu Leu Ser Phe Val Val Leu Cys Cys Thr	
	180 185 190	
20	TAC CTC AAG GTG CTC AAG GTG GCC CGC TTC CAT TGC AAG CGC ATC GAC	804
	Tyr Leu Lys Val Leu Lys Val Ala Arg Phe His Cys Lys Arg Ile Asp	
	195 200 205	
25	GTG ATC ACC ATG CAG ACG CTC GTG CTG CTG GTG GAC CTG CAC CCC AGT	852
	Val Ile Thr Met Gln Thr Leu Val Leu Leu Val Asp Leu His Pro Ser	
	210 215 220	
30	GTG CGG GAA CGC TGT CTG GAG GAG CAG AAG CGG AGG CGA CAG CGA GCC	900
	Val Arg Glu Arg Cys Leu Glu Glu Gln Lys Arg Arg Arg Gln Arg Ala	
	225 230 235	
35	ACC AAG AAG ATC AGC ACC TTC ATA GGG ACC TTC CTT GTG TGC TTC GCG	948
	Thr Lys Lys Ile Ser Thr Phe Ile Gly Thr Phe Leu Val Cys Phe Ala	
	240 245 250 255	
40	CCC TAT GTG ATC ACC AGG CTA GTG GAG CTC TTC TCC ACG GTG CCC ATC	996
	Pro Tyr Val Ile Thr Arg Leu Val Glu Leu Phe Ser Thr Val Pro Ile	
	260 265 270	
45	GGC TCC CAC TGG GGG GTG CTG TCC AAG TGC TTG GCG TAC AGC AAG GCC	1044
	Gly Ser His Trp Gly Val Leu Ser Lys Cys Leu Ala Tyr Ser Lys Ala	
	275 280 285	
50	GCA TCC GAC CCC TTT GTG TAC TCC TTA CTG CGA CAC CAG TAC CGC AAA	1092
	Ala Ser Asp Pro Phe Val Tyr Ser Leu Leu Arg His Gln Tyr Arg Lys	
	290 295 300	
55	AGC TGC AAG GAG ATT CTG AAC AGG CTC CTG CAC AGA CGC TCC ATC CAC	1140
	Ser Cys Lys Glu Ile Leu Asn Arg Leu Leu His Arg Arg Ser Ile His	
	305 310 315	
60	TCC TCT GGC CTC ACA GGC GAC TCT CAC AGC CAG AAC ATT CTG CCG GTG	1188
	Ser Ser Gly Leu Thr Gly Asp Ser His Ser Gln Asn Ile Leu Pro Val	
	320 325 330 335	
65	TCT GAG TGAAGGACCG CGCTCCTGCT GAAGAGTTTA GAATGAGGCA GCGGTGAGAA	1244
	Ser Glu	

- 4 -

GAAGGGTGGG AGGGCGTGGG GGCCCCCTGGG TGGACACCAC CAGCCACCAG TCCCTGGCAT 1304
 GCCCAGATGA TCCTGGTTCC CTGGCTTGTA GGGGCTCCAG AGCCTGCTTC CTGGTTCCTC 1364
 5 AAGGGCAGAT ATTGGACACT TCCTTATTTG TCACCAAAGG AATGACTGTA GGCCGTGTGT 1424
 TGGCCCTTCT TTCTAAGAAG CTGCTTTGAG CTCCTGGACT CACCTGAGGC TCCCTGGGGG 1484
 ATGACACTCA GTTCTGTCAC TGTCAAGGAT GCAGAGAGCT GGTGGTAGGT GGGGAAGCATG 1544
 10 GTGTCCACCT GCCTGCTGAC CACTGGACGC TGCTCCATGC TGAAGAAAAG TGACAGTCTC 1604
 CAGGGGACAT TTCAGCCATG CTGAAAGGGA GGCTGGCAGT GGTCAATTGGC CCGGATCTAA 1664
 15 CATGGCACCT CGTCTCCACA GGGTAGTGGT GGCTGCTTCA ACCCAAATAT TATTCAGCTG 1724
 GTACTAACGA CATTGTGCCC AGCTGGGACT CTGGGGCTCT GTGCCTGAGG GAAAATGTTT 1784
 CACAAC TAGT GGCTGCCCAA TTGCTGCTGA CCAGTTGTCT TAGAAATGGT CAATTGGATT 1844
 20 CAACTTTAGT CCTCTCCTTC CCCCTAAAAG CGAATGTTTG TGTGTGCAGA CAATCTTAGC 1904
 ATGAAAATGG TTAAATAGG CTGGTCCTAC ATGTATTAGG TTCTTTCAAG TTTGACTGGG 1964
 25 AGGTCACCTT TTTCTGATTT ACAAGTCCTA ATTGTTGGAG CTCAGTAAAG GTAGGAGGAA 2024
 GGTGCTGGT TGGTCCTCCC TTCCCCCTGT TTGTGACCTG AATTTACAGG AAGTGTTC 2084
 ACTTGCTCTTA TGCATCTTAT CTGGCATGTC CTGGGAGATG GATGGGCAAG AACTGGCCTG 2144
 30 AGCAGGGATT TTTGCCTTGA TTTTAAGTCA CTGGGTTCCTA TTGTCCTGGC ACCTCCATTT 2204
 CCTTAGTTTC TGTAAGCCTG TTAACAGAAA GTAGAGGCTA TTCAAGGTTA TCAAGAAAGT 2264
 35 GCCCTGTGCT AATGATGAGA CAGTGAATTT TTTTTTTTTT CAGATGGGAG TTTACTCTT 2324
 ATTGCCCAGG CTAGAGTGCA ATGGTGCAT CTAGGCTCAC CGCAACCTCT GCCTTCCAGG 2384
 TTCAAGTGAT TAGAGACAGT GAAATTTTTA TGAATACTG CACCTATAAA ACACATGCCA 2444
 40 ATCTGTTAGC AGTCCTGACT TGATTTAATA AAAACCAAGG AGAGCCAAA AAAAAAAAAA 2504
 AAAAAAAAAA AAAAAGGGCG GCCGCTCTAG AGGATCCAAG CTTACGTACG CGTGCATGCG 2564
 45 ACGTCATAGC TCTTGGA 2581

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 50 (A) LENGTH: 337 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEO ID NO:2:

[illegible]

- 6 -

Ser His Trp Gly Val Leu Ser Lys Cys Leu Ala Tyr Ser Lys Ala Ala
 275 280 285

5 Ser Asp Pro Phe Val Tyr Ser Leu Leu Arg His Gln Tyr Arg Lys Ser
 290 295 300

Cys Lys Glu Ile Leu Asn Arg Leu Leu His Arg Arg Ser Ile His Ser
 305 310 315 320

10 Ser Gly Leu Thr Gly Asp Ser His Ser Gln Asn Ile Leu Pro Val Ser
 325 330 335

Glu

15 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1011 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 20 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

25 (ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: 1..1011

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

30 ATG AAC TCG TGG GAC GCG GGC CTG GCG GGG CTA CTG GTG GGC ACG ATG 48
 Met Asn Ser Trp Asp Ala Gly Leu Ala Gly Leu Leu Val Gly Thr Met
 1 5 10 15

35 GGC GTC TCG CTG CTG TCC AAC GCG CTG GTG CTG CTC TGC CTG CTG CAC 96
 Gly Val Ser Leu Leu Ser Asn Ala Leu Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Leu His
 20 25 30

40 AGC GCG GAC ATC CGC CGC CAG GCG CCG GCG CTC TTC ACC CTG AAC CTC 144
 Ser Ala Asp Ile Arg Arg Gln Ala Pro Ala Leu Phe Thr Leu Asn Leu
 35 40 45

45 ACG TGC GGG AAC CTG CTG TGC ACC GTG GTC AAC ATG CCG CTC ACG CTG 192
 Thr Cys Gly Asn Leu Leu Cys Thr Val Val Asn Met Pro Leu Thr Leu
 50 55 60

50 GCC GGC GTC GTG GCG CGG CGG CAG CCG GCG GGC GAC CGC CTG TGC CGC 240
 Ala Gly Val Val Ala Arg Arg Gln Pro Ala Gly Asp Arg Leu Cys Arg
 65 70 75 80

CTG GCT GCC TTC CTC GAC ACC TTC CTG GCT GCC AAC TCC ATG CTC AGC 288
 Leu Ala Ala Phe Leu Asp Thr Phe Leu Ala Ala Asn Ser Met Leu Ser
 85 90 95

- 7 -

	ATG	GCC	GCG	CTC	AGC	ATC	GAC	CGC	TGG	GTG	GCC	GTG	GTC	TTC	CCG	CTG	336
	Met	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ser	Ile	Asp	Arg	Trp	Val	Ala	Val	Val	Phe	Pro	Leu	
				100					105					110			
5	AGC	TAC	CGG	GCC	AAG	ATG	CGC	CTC	CGC	GAC	GCG	GCG	CTC	ATG	GTG	GCC	384
	Ser	Tyr	Arg	Ala	Lys	Met	Arg	Leu	Arg	Asp	Ala	Ala	Leu	Met	Val	Ala	
			115					120					125				
10	TAC	ACG	TGG	CTG	CAC	GCG	CTC	ACC	TTC	CCA	GCC	GCC	GCG	CTC	GCC	CTG	432
	Tyr	Thr	Trp	Leu	His	Ala	Leu	Thr	Phe	Pro	Ala	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ala	Leu	
		130					135					140					
15	TCC	TGG	CTC	GGC	TTC	CAC	CAG	CTG	TAC	GCC	TCG	TGC	ACG	CTG	TGC	AGC	480
	Ser	Trp	Leu	Gly	Phe	His	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Ala	Ser	Cys	Thr	Leu	Cys	Ser	
	145					150					155					160	
20	CGG	CGG	CCG	GAC	GAG	CGC	CTG	CGC	TTC	GCC	GTC	TTC	ACT	GGC	GCC	TTC	528
	Arg	Arg	Pro	Asp	Glu	Arg	Leu	Arg	Phe	Ala	Val	Phe	Thr	Gly	Ala	Phe	
					165					170					175		
	CAC	GCT	CTC	AGC	TTC	CTG	CTC	TCC	TTC	GTC	GTG	CTC	TGC	TGC	ACG	TAC	576
	His	Ala	Leu	Ser	Phe	Leu	Leu	Ser	Phe	Val	Val	Leu	Cys	Cys	Thr	Tyr	
				180					185					190			
25	CTC	AAG	GTG	CTC	AAG	GTG	GCC	CGC	TTC	CAT	TGC	AAG	CGC	ATC	GAC	GTG	624
	Leu	Lys	Val	Leu	Lys	Val	Ala	Arg	Phe	His	Cys	Lys	Arg	Ile	Asp	Val	
			195					200					205				
30	ATC	ACC	ATG	CAG	ACG	CTC	GTG	CTG	CTG	GTG	GAC	CTG	CAC	CCC	AGT	GTG	672
	Ile	Thr	Met	Gln	Thr	Leu	Val	Leu	Leu	Val	Asp	Leu	His	Pro	Ser	Val	
		210					215					220					
35	CGG	GAA	CGC	TGT	CTG	GAG	GAG	CAG	AAG	CGG	AGG	CGA	CAG	CGA	GCC	ACC	720
	Arg	Glu	Arg	Cys	Leu	Glu	Gln	Lys	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gln	Arg	Ala	Thr		
	225					230				235					240		
40	AAG	AAG	ATC	AGC	ACC	TTC	ATA	GGG	ACC	TTC	CTT	GTG	TGC	TTC	GCG	CCC	768
	Lys	Lys	Ile	Ser	Thr	Phe	Ile	Gly	Thr	Phe	Leu	Val	Cys	Phe	Ala	Pro	
					245				250						255		
	TAT	GTG	ATC	ACC	AGG	CTA	GTG	GAG	CTC	TTC	TCC	ACG	GTG	CCC	ATC	GGC	816
	Tyr	Val	Ile	Thr	Arg	Leu	Val	Glu	Leu	Phe	Ser	Thr	Val	Pro	Ile	Gly	
				260					265					270			
45	TCC	CAC	TGG	GGG	GTG	CTG	TCC	AAG	TGC	TTG	GCG	TAC	AGC	AAG	GCC	GCA	864
	Ser	His	Trp	Gly	Val	Leu	Ser	Lys	Cys	Leu	Ala	Tyr	Ser	Lys	Ala	Ala	
			275					280					285				
50	TCC	GAC	CCC	TTT	GTG	TAC	TCC	TTA	CTG	CGA	CAC	CAG	TAC	CGC	AAA	AGC	912
	Ser	Asp	Pro	Phe	Val	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Leu	Arg	His	Gln	Tyr	Arg	Lys	Ser	
		290					295					300					
55	TGC	AAG	GAG	ATT	CTG	AAC	AGG	CTC	CTG	CAC	AGA	CGC	TCC	ATC	CAC	TCC	960
	Cys	Lys	Glu	Ile	Leu	Asn	Arg	Leu	Leu	His	Arg	Arg	Ser	Ile	His	Ser	
		305				310					315					320	

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

50 (A) LENGTH: 23 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- 9 -

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal

5 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Arg Leu Ala Ala Phe Leu Asp Thr Phe Leu Ala Ala Asn Ser Met Leu
1 5 10 15

10 Ser Met Ala Ala Leu Ser Ile
20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

15 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 26 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

20 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

Arg Asp Ala Ala Leu Met Val Ala Tyr Thr Trp Leu His Ala Leu Thr
1 5 10 15

30 Phe Pro Ala Ala Ala Leu Ala Leu Ser Trp
20 25

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

35 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 22 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

40 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

45 Phe Ala Val Phe Thr Gly Ala Phe His Ala Leu Ser Phe Leu Leu Ser
1 5 10 15

50 Phe Val Val Leu Cys Cys
20

- 10 -

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 5 (A) LENGTH: 19 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

- 10 (v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

15 Ile Gly Thr Phe Leu Val Cys Phe Ala Pro Tyr Val Ile Thr Arg Leu
1 5 10 15
Val Glu Leu

20 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 25 (A) LENGTH: 21 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

- 30 (v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

35 Lys Cys Leu Ala Tyr Ser Lys Ala Ala Ser Asp Pro Phe Val Tyr Ser
1 5 10 15
Leu Leu Arg His Gln
20

40 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 45 (A) LENGTH: 16 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

- 50 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

CGGGGCGCGC ACCATG

- 11 -

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 17 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

CACCATGAAC TCGTGGG

17

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 16 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

TGAAGGACCG CGCTCC

16

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 16 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

TCTGAGTGAA GGACCG

16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/01128**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(6) :C07K 14/705; C12N 15/12, 15/63, 15/70, 15/74, 15/79, 15/81

US CL :Please See Extra Sheet.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 530/350; 435/69.1, 69.7, 252.3, 254.11, 320.1, 325; 536/23.5, 34.31

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
None

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, Biosis, Medline, WPI, Dialog

search terms: G-protein coupled receptor, human fetal brain

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X - Y	ADAMS et al. Rapid cDNA Sequencing (Expressed Sequence Tags) from a Directionally Cloned Human Infant Brain cDNA Library. Nature Genetics. August 1993, Vol. 4, pages 373-380, see entire document.	1, 11, 17 ----- 2-6
A	HATA et al. cDNA Cloning of a Putative G Protein-Coupled Receptor from Brain. Biochimica et Biophysica Acta. 1995, Vol. 1261, pages 121-125, especially pages 122-124	1-9, 11, 14, 17
A	HEIBER et al. Isolation of Three Novel Human Genes Encoding G Protein-Coupled Receptors. DNA and Cell Biology. 1995, Vol. 14, No. 1, pages 25-35, especially pages 26-28.	1-9, 11, 14, and 17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
E earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
L document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*A* document member of the same patent family
O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 APRIL 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

13 MAY 1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Sally F. Peng

Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/01128

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PROBST et al. Sequence Alignment of the G-Protein Coupled Receptor Superfamily. DNA and Cell Biology. 1992, Vol. 11, No. 1, pages 1-20, especially pages 2, 10-14.	1-9, 11, 14, 17

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/01128

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-9, 11, 14, 17

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/01128

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: US CL :

530/350; 435/69.1, 69.7, 252.3, 254.11, 320.1, 325; 536/23.5, 34.31

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1-9, 11, 14, and 17, drawn to nucleic acid encoding a G-protein coupled receptor, the G-protein coupled receptor and method of making the receptor using the nucleic acid.

Group II, claim 10, drawn to antibody that binds to the G-protein coupled receptor.

Group III, claims 12 and 13, drawn to method of detecting the G-protein coupled receptor.

Group IV, claims 15 and 16, drawn to a method of detecting the nucleic acid encoding the G-protein coupled receptor.

Group V, claims 18 and 19, drawn to a method of identifying compound that binds G-protein coupled receptor.

Group VI, claims 20-26, drawn to a method of identifying compounds that modulates G-protein coupled receptor.

The inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical feature of Group I is the nucleic acid sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence of the G-protein coupled receptor. The special technical feature of Group II is an antibody that binds to the receptor of Group I but does not have the same structure and function as the receptor of Group I. The special technical feature of Group III is a method of using a compound that binds the receptor of Group I to detect the presence of the receptor in a sample. The special technical feature of Group IV is a method of using the nucleic acid probe to detect the presence of the nucleic acid encoding the G-protein coupled receptor of Group I. The special technical feature of Group V is a method of using the receptor or cells expressing the receptor of Group I to identify compounds that bind the receptor. The special technical feature of Group VI is a method of using a cell expressing the receptor of Group I to identify modulators of the receptor of Group I. As set forth above, the special technical feature of each group is not the same or does not correspond to the special technical feature of any other group because the products of Groups I and II are structurally and functionally distinct and the methods of Groups III-VI require different method steps and starting reagents for accomplishing different goals. The Groups are not linked by a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2 so as to form a single inventive concept.